The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occuring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

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TRUST'S BONUS SCHEME IS USUAL SHELL GAME

Press dispatches from Sharon, Pa., state that the steel trust has extended its bonus system to wage earners.

On profits from $100,000,000 to $150,000,000 a bonus of 2 per cent will be given workers; to $200,000,000, 2 1-4 per cent, and in excess of this amount, 2 1-2 per cent will be distributed.

The scheme appears alluring, but like other gold bricks, it should be investigated.

"Dividing profits" has a brotherly sound, but it means nothing to those who know that the trust retains the power to decide what constitutes profits, and that skilled accountants can pile up the debit side of the ledger to any height desired.

As a rule, wage earners are unacquainted with finance. They know nothing of the intricacies of corporation bookkeeping and the methods employed to conceal extortionate profits.

The steel trust maintains various funds which are charged as costs to the industry. These charges include labor, salaries and lawyers' fees without limit, raw material, interest on bonds, federal and state taxes, depreciation, replacement, etc.

What is left is called profits.

In the trust's depreciation fund vast sums are assigned to replace machinery. Replacement funds are used for the same purpose. The law regulates the amount that can be placed in the depreciation fund, but no limit is placed on net earnings that are shoveled into the replacement fund hole.

Millions of dollars of profits are thus concealed, and the amount may be increased or decreased as suits the purpose of those in control.

Workers who accept the trust's bonus system play with loaded dice, because corporation profits is a matter of figure jugglery in which they have no part and desire none.

Under this system greater production does not mean greater profits (except to the "insiders"), although the worker is led to believe it does.

A morale is necessary for greater production. This spirit can not be developed by bookkeeping systems based on "Now you see it and now you don't."

Statistics can be marshaled in such manner that workers may be silenced, but not convinced. It is folly to believe that co-operation can be developed under these conditions. Right relations between men is not a matter of figures. Harmony is impossible in an atmosphere of doubt.

The workers' longing for social justice will not be stilled by a bonus scheme that is equalled by the shell game and three-card monte man.

It is significant that bonus and similar schemes are always advocated by anti-union employers, whose pretense and deceit are best shown by their so-called "open shop" claims.

Reasons Why British Miners Suspended Work

Washington, April 9.—The strike of coal miners in England involves several issues, but the outstanding feature is the attempt of these workers to hold their positions of unified mine control, established by the government, and national wage standards.

As the result of the miners' strike that started in October of last year, a national wages board was set up. The government has controlled the price of coal and its distribution, and its plan to turn the mines back to their owners is opposed by the miners, who insist that plans should first be worked out that will stabilize this industry. The miners are fearful for their gains if unrestricted private control is again established.

The railway workers are linked up with the miners and transport workers in a voluntary pact called the triple alliance, but the railway workers are more than sentimentally interested in the miners' cause as government control of the railroads is to end next August and their general wages board and other gains will be jeopardized, as is the miners.

The miners are committed to the nationalization of mines and this was indorsed in 1919 by the British Trades Union Congress by a vote of 4,478,000 to 77,000. The government suggests that the royalty rights of the mines be acquired and that the managements of these properties be unified.

The nationalization demand seems to be a less important point at this time, but the miners' strongest claim for nationalization is that the great inequalities, because of physical conditions, in the mining industry gives low-cost mines the advantage over high-cost mines.

The miners insist that every ounce of coal possible is necessary for the economic life of England and that mine production should be on the basis of low-cost mines aiding those of higher cost, and that this is only possible by nationalization.

The so-called Sankey commission, appointed by the government, reported in 1919 in favor of nationalization. The government rejected this recommendation and advanced the plan of securing mine royalty rights. The miners charge that the government agreed to accept the commission's findings.

At the present time the usual claim of inefficiency is made by the coal owners against the miners, and the latter reply that the coal owners, with the consent of the government, raised the price of export coal to continental Europe to a disgracefully high price in order to reimburse the national treasury. This injured England's export trade, and the home consumer is now called upon to maintain profits and the miner is asked to lower working conditions.

TELLS TALES OUT OF SCHOOL.

Washington, April 9.—I. A. Fleming, financial writer in the Evening Star, "tells tales out of school" when he calls on directors of corporations to "direct" the affairs of these institutions. The theory that these directors are supermen is shattered by the writer, who makes this significant statement:

"Directors should direct. They should be compelled to retain a certain amount of stock to hold their positions.

"Any one who thinks that the insiders' in a great corporation whose business has slumped, whose inventory has been swollen in an attempt to maintain work in anticipation of an immediate resumption of business, necessitating big bank loans, are so conscientious that they will not take advantage of their first knowledge of these affairs to reduce their holdings, is giving weak human nature too much credit.

"Stockholders in a corporation are unquestionably entitled to something more in the way of protection for their investments than that furnished by the annual meeting, always sparsely attended, and the annual reports of the directors and officials who have been advanced to their positions as 'insiders' largely by the proxy vote."

URGE AMNESTY.

Washington, April 9. — Amnesty for political offenses was urged by a delegation of trade unionists and other citizens, headed by President Gompers, who called on President Harding. The chief executive was presented with resolutions on this subject adopted by the last convention of the A. F. of L. Members of the delegation are hopeful that the release of war offenders who would not be charged with a crime for the same offense in peace times would soon be affected.

AIR BRAKE PROSPERS.

New York, April 9.—These are prosperous days for stockholders of the Westinghouse Air Brake company, according to the annual report. Net profits last year totaled $5,330,403, which is equal to $9.15 a share on the $29,127,350 of capital stock. In 1919 the company earned $10.80 a share.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Pittsfield, Mass., April 9.—The typographical union has raised wages at two large plants in this city.

SWITCHMEN TO CONVENE.

Toledo, Ohio, April 9.—The second annual convention of the Switchmen's Union of North America will convene in this city on May 9.

WOULD ANNUL LABOR LAWS.

Albany, N. Y., April 9.—Trade unionists in this state are arranging for a state-wide conference to combat the political agents of reaction in the state legislature who would annul social legislation.

One bill introduced by Senator Knight would revive the payment of wages in company script, and invalidate the eight-hour law in building construction. Another section of the bill permits women to work at "wet grinding." The law now forbids women and males under 18 from operating any polishing or buffing wheel.

Statistics show that many workers are frequently injured and contract tuberculosis at "wet grinding;" yet the Knight bill provides that "females more than 21 years of age may be employed in operating such wheels for wet grinding under conditions specified by the industrial board."

WANT GOVERNMENT AID.

Washington, April 9.—While business interests and organizations are loudly proclaiming that "government interference must cease," business men are holding almost daily conferences with representatives of the government to extend their markets to other countries. One writer says: "The co-operation is to be not merely under the auspices of the government but actually under the leadership of government officials."

The situation is amusing to those who look beneath the surface while business men publicly call for "private initiative."

NO HARD TIMES HERE.

Boston, April 9.—Stockholders of the Hamilton Manufacturing company, textile manufacturers, have voted to double the capitalization of $1,800,000, to distribute the new stock share for share and to declare from the surplus cash dividend sufficient to pay $70 a share. The remaining $30 a share is payable by the shareholders in cash. The company's present surplus is $3,095,000, of which $1,260,000 was appropriated by the dividend declaration.

PARCEL POST POPULAR.

Washington, April 9.—Reports by postmasters of large cities indicate that merchants are using the parcel post system more each year and that many of them are dispensing with their own delivery systems.

ADJUST WAGE RATES.

Oglesby, Ill., April 9.—Contractors have accepted a rate of 87½ cents an hour for hod carriers and laborers.

Onward the Course of Labor Works Its Way

BY PRESIDENT GOMPERS, IN AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST.

Judge Gary, who is chairman of the finance committee of the United States steel corporation, has announced that the corporation has discontinued the seven-day week and the "long turn" by which workers were compelled to work a 24-hour day at each change of 12-hour shifts. It is further declared that the steel trust may discontinue the 12-hour day in the near future and put its entire plant on the eight-hour basis.

Thirty-nine per cent of the employes of the United States steel corporation work 11 hours or more per day, which means that part of the time they work 11 hours per day and part of the time 13 hours per day the difference depending upon whether they are working day shift or night shift.

The steps already taken by the steel trust toward the elimination of brutal and inhuman conditions are highly significant and if it goes a step further and eliminates the 12-hour day, much will have been accomplished toward making the mills and plants of the steel trust fit places in which human beings may work.

This improvement in conditions of employment in the steel trust is due to the growing pressure of trade unionism and though he may deny it, Judge Gary has to that extent yielded to the protests of the labor movement.

When trade unionism first began to function, when it first began to call attention to the evils in industry, to unbearable conditions and to injustices that existed, it began to build up in the minds of thinking persons a moral force operating against the continuance of injustice.

From the moment of its first protest the labor movement began to align with it those whose minds were open to the concept of justice and fairness.

The steel trust in now correcting some of its most glaring evils is acting in response to the great resentment that has come into being again arbitrarily imposed injustices of that kind and it is acting under the direct power and influence of the trade union movement.

The force that has compelled the steel trust to abolish that which it has always hitherto said could not be abolished is distinctly a labor force and is a tribute to the righteousness of labor's protest and to the strength of its position. It is testimony unimpeachable that labor's position has been sound both morally and industrially.

Undoubtedly Judge Gary hopes that the action of the steel trust in eliminating some of the more serious and inexcusable abuses may help to retard the growth of trade unionism in the steel industry. Judge Gary opposes trade unionism in the steel industry, because he fears it and because he does not understand it. If he understood trade unionism he would fear the consequences of being without it in the steel industry. Judge Gary knows steel as a metal much better than he knows the mass of humanity that makes steel.

Hopeful as it is to see the seven-day week and the "long turn" abolished in the steel industry, and hopeful as we may be that the 12-hour day may also disappear, the steel industry cannot protect and perpetuate the practice of autocratic control merely by means of these alleviations. With added time to think, and with added time to come together and discuss problems, the workers in the steel industry are much more likely to devote their thought to human welfare and to the liberation of human beings than they are to devote their thought solely to the welfare and profit of Mr. Gary. They are likely to see that the democratic concept pervades the institutions around them and to seek ways and means of introducing that concept into the place where it is most vital to them in their daily lives—their place of employment.

For the sake of immediate physical well-being of those involved, a benevolent feudalism is undoubtedly more to be desired than a feudalism that is not benevolent, but in the minds of those who have come to think and who have come to understand something beyond feudalism, no feudalism is tolerable, whether benevolent or not.

The trade union movement has made steady and unrelenting progress toward the destruction of the autocratic concept in industry. The steel trust has been one of the last great citadels of the old principle. It has been to industry in America what the thrones of the czar and the kaiser were to the political life of the world. Its outer defenses have fallen. It is but a question of time before the surrender to progress and freedom, and human welfare, will be complete. It is not of much moment whether Mr. Gary is aware of what is taking place, or whether he is even aware of the causes that underlie his own action. The important thing is that progress continues. The liberation of humanity goes on. The world moves.

PROFITEERS PROTECTED.

Cleveland, April 9.—"Parrot propaganda," says the Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen's Magazine in discussing a screed against railroad employes by B. C. Forbes, editor of Forbes' Magazine.

"It is all the same line of bunk," says Editor McNamee, "that was handed to the public when 'government ownership is a failure!' was the slogan adopted by the 'advertising engineers,' who worked so assiduously in the campaign to put over the financial program of the money kings—and the public was sold. Yes, 'sold' in every implied acceptance of the term.

"Mr. Forbes' outburst is the same kind of dope that was peddled under the 'car shortage' slogan that was followed by the 'coal shortage' slogan—and a billion dollars or so were taken from the pockets of the dear public, for which Mr. Forbes poses as spokesman and defender.

"But in his solicitous concern for the dear public, and in all his unwarranted criticism of the railroad workers Mr. Forbes does not advocate a reduction of freight and passenger rates in favor of the public; he does not give the public any light on the gross mismanagement and manipulation that has piled sky high the transportation expenses, nor does he suggest that the squeezing out of a few billion dollars of water would reduce the guarantee the public has to pay railroads by several hundred million dollars a year."

REVIVE OLD SCHEME.

Chicago, April 9.—"There is nothing new in the 'individual bargaining between employer and employe' system that is being pushed under the misnomer 'American plan,'" says President Perkins of the Cigar Makers' International union.

"Individual bargaining was the method used for centuries, and until the dawn of the day when labor began to organize into trade unions the workers felt its full force and knew its fatal result. It was in full sway when skilled mechanics worked 10, 12 and often 14 hours a day for whatever the employer saw fit to hand his 'individually hired' man. It was in the height of its glory (?) when the worker's home held neither comfort nor convenience of any kind, and when 85 per cent of the workers' children were deprived of an opportunity to obtain even a grammar school education. These miserable conditions, and many others as bad or worse, generally prevailed until labor, through the power of organization, put them forever out of its life.

"These conditions which for so long a time made of the worker no more than a chattel are behind us. Let it be known now and forever that we have tried individual bargaining and know the dregs the cup contains. We do not propose to drink again of its poisoned contents, be it labeled the 'American plan' or anything else."

URGE SMALL CLAIM COURT.

Trenton, N. J., April 9.—The establishment of a small claim court is the purpose of a bill introduced in the state senate. It now costs $12 to $15 in court charges to settle the smallest civil claim, but under the proposed system the expense would be only $1 to begin an action. No lawyer would be required, the plaintiff simply making his statement to a clerk of the court. It is stated that in the city of Newark alone more than $25,000 would be saved annually by the creation of this court, which would eliminate lawyers and fees.

URGE REMEDIAL LAWS.

St. Johns, New Brunswick, April 9.—The New Brunswick federation of labor is urging the government to adopt remedial legislation which includes the creation of a department of labor, the adoption of a minimum wage act, abolition of private employment agencies, mothers' pensions, mining act, eight-hour day, factories act amendment, compensation amendments, pensions for old and needy, election and educational acts and the public ownership of all public utilities.

LESS MINE FATALITIES.

Washington, April 9.—That fewer men lost their lives in metal-mine accidents in this country during 1919 than in any previous year for which statistics of accidents have been compiled is shown in a report just issued by the United States bureau of mines. The number of men killed was 463 as compared with 646 killed in 1918. The number of men injured was 31,506, as compared with 42,915 injured in 1918.

CHECK RATE BOOST.

Washington, April 9.—The interstate commerce commission has checked the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad in its attempt to increase loading charges for live stock.

REJECT OLD AGE PENSION.

Springfield, Ill., April 9.—A committee of the Illinois house of representatives has rejected an old-age pension bill.

LUXURIES COST MORE THAN ALL EDUCATION

Washington, April 9.—When a penny is spent for education, dollars are expended on luxuries, according to P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education, who dispels the fiction that this country's educational system is costly.

"Despite the low salaries of teachers, and the meager and inadequate equipment of schools," says this educator, "many people believe the support of the public schools, elementary, secondary and higher, to be our chief burden. The truth is public education is not a burden. Its cost is almost negligible when compared with other expenditures."

It is shown that in 1918, the last year for which complete reports have been compiled, this country spent $919,729,258 for elementary and secondary public education, for normal schools for the training of teachers and for higher education in colleges, universities and professional schools, whether supported by public taxation or privately endowed.

Against this expenditure of less than $1,000,000,000 in 1918 for education, Commissioner Claxton showed that according to 1920 reports the people spent for luxuries in that year $22,700,000,000, or more than 22 times as much as they spent for education only two years before, and $6,000,000,000, or 30 per cent more than the United States expended for education in its entire history.

The amount paid for chewing gum was two and one-half times the total expenditures for normal schools, and almost exactly the same as all state and city appropriations for higher education.

The $300,000,000 paid for furs is more than twice the total cost of all higher education, and the $350,000,000 paid for soft drinks is more than two and one-half times as much. It is more than the total value of college and university buildings, including dormitories, in 1918.

The cost of toilet soaps—$400,000,000—in 1920, and the salaries of elementary and secondary teachers in 1918, are almost exactly the same.

UNIONS ASK TO BE HEARD.

Chicago, April 9.—Organized railroad shop employes have asked President Harding to include them in discussions now being held by him on plans to aid the railroads. In a telegram to the president, these workers say:

"Two million railroad workers and their millions of dependents are vitally interested in your efforts to effect a solution of the railroad problem. Obviously no policy or program that is acceptable to them will be productive of the much-desired result of co-operation, and accordingly, therefore, we respectfully urge that we be given a voice in the determination of what is to be done."

The telegram declared that settlement of the controversies over national working agreements and wages constitutes the "first essential to peace and orderly progress in the transportation industry."

EMPLOYERS REJECT PEACE.

Hartford, Conn., April 9.—Employers in this state lined up solidly against a proposed law that would authorize the appointment of a council consisting of the state labor commissioner and an equal number of representatives of employers and employed to investigate industrial disputes and acquaint the public with their findings. The state federation of labor favored the plan, but the employers declared that "it would give labor another opportunity to create annoyance for the employer and delve into his books and find out things that aren't the public's business."

ANNULS MINIMUM WAGE.

Austin, Texas, April 9.—Governor Neff has vetoed a minimum wage law, passed by the legislature. The claim is made that the act is unconstitutional because it exempts a large number of callings and does not apply to cities, towns or villages whose population is less than 4,950.

The act also exempts women and minors employed on piece work or who do not work under the supervision of employers.

The governor says that "those whom it is intended to benefit are taken out of the bill by exceptions."

PAINTERS MAKE GAINS.

Toronto, Ontario, April 9. — Painters' union No. 151 has reached a wage agreement with the Master Painters' association. The 1920 rate is practically agreed to.

RESTRICT CONVICT LABOR.

Springfield, Ill., April 9.—Organized labor in this state is urging legislation to restrict the sale of convict-made goods.

CARPENTERS UNITE.

Palatka, Fla., April 9.—Carpenters at this place have organized and are affiliated with the Brotherhood of Carpenters.

FEDERAL LAW SPURNED BY RAILROAD MANAGER

Birmingham, Ala., April 9.—The high regard for law, which big business professes, is shown in its true colors in the case of the Atlanta, Birmingham & Atlantic railroad, whose employes are now on strike against a wage reduction in defiance of the Cummins-Esch law. This law was enacted last year on the urgent request of big business and its retainers, who insisted that machinery be created that would make railroad strikes improbable.

The first to break this law is the railroads, and the retainers of big business are silent. The most glaring defiance of law is shown by the management of the A., B. & A. The road reduced wages without conferring with employes or referring the matter to the railway labor board. The board ordered that the law be complied with. The president of the road was then appointed receiver of the road by Federal Judge Sibley, and the cut was made effective, regardless of the Cummins-Esch law.

Val Fitzpatrick, representing the striking employes, says that the application for a receiver was made by the Birmingham Trust and Savings company, which held a note against the railroad, but the note was not due at the time. The unionist states that President Bugg of the railroad testified that he induced the bank to start proceedings, and that he then resigned as president of the road to qualify for the office of receiver, to which Judge Sibley appointed him. The receiver then ignored the Cummins-Esch law and arbitrarily cut wages.

"It is practically conceded," says Val Fitzpatrick, "that the whole plan of the bank and the officials of the railroad was to accomplish what the railroad has been unable to accomplish by legal methods."

ILLITERACY DECLINES.

Washington, April 9.—Illiteracy in this country is on the decline, according to census bureau returns from the first three states in which 1920 enumeration has been worked.

In Alabama, where the percentage was 22.9 of the population over 10 years of age in 1910, the 1920 percentage was 16.1. In Arkansas the percentage dropped from 12.6 to 9.4, and in Delaware from 8.1 to 5.9.

Illiterate persons under the census bureau tabulation include all those unable to write.

In those states the percentage of illiteracy in the rural districts was greater than in the cities. In Delaware 17.3 per cent of foreign born white persons were found illiterate, and only 2 per cent whites of native parentage.

POLICE AID WAGE CUTS.

San Juan, Porto Rico, April 9.—Island police are adopting their usual bulldozing methods against agricultural workers who are resisting wage cuts by the sugar corporations. Many thousands of these workers are compelled to face the brutality and illegal interference of police.

More than 15,000 tobacco workers have resisted wage reductions for three months and have convinced employers of the futility of this move. The factories are being opened with former rates prevailing. Other strikes of minor importance are being waged against wage cuts.

VIOLATE WOMEN'S LAW.

Kansas City, Mo., April 9.—Restaurant managers, who employ unorganized workers, are violating the 54-hour law of this state. In many places hours have been lengthened to 60 and 70 hours a week, and an average wage of $12 a week has been cut to $7.50 and $8. Trade unionists are aiding the victimized women, and are also calling attention to the value of trade union action, rather than depend on some official of the state to guarantee them living conditions.

UNIONS AID TEACHERS.

Wilmette, Ill., April 9.—Officials of the American Federation of Teachers report that in the fight of Oregon teachers for a law that would protect them against politicians on school boards, "organized labor was the only group that supported the teachers."

"In spite of this," it is stated, "non-union teachers are refusing to join our ranks. Such is the power of tradition—and of vested interests."

REFUSE TO ARBITRATE.

Sioux City, Iowa, April 9.—Building contractors in this city have refused to arbitrate differences with their employes, as suggested by Mayor Short. These petty autocrats reply that the arbitration plan is a "subterfuge." They want the right to "run their own business," just like Garyism.

STATE UNIONS TO MEET.

Fargo, N. Dak., April 9.—The annual convention of the North Dakota state federation of labor will be held in this city starting May 1.

SINGLE TAXERS TO MEET.

Washington, April 9.—A national conference of single taxers will be held in this city on May 10 and 11 to discuss and take action on various matters pertaining to that movement. The call says:

"The pseudo-prosperity of the war period is being followed by a real depression. Wages and profits of unprivileged business are being forced down while ground rents and monopoly prices remain high. Legislators are making matters worse by putting more taxes on industry and ignoring the need of higher taxation of land values. The situation is naturally breeding discontent which, unless intelligently directed, must bring about disaster."

The land question is of interest to labor, as is shown by the reconstruction program of the A. F. of L., in which it is declared that "the private ownership of large tracts of usable land is not conducive to the best interests of a democratic people. Legislation should be enacted placing a graduated tax upon all usable lands above the acreage which is cultivated by the owner.

"This should include provisions through which the tenant farmer or others may purchase land upon the lowest rate of interest and most favorable terms consistent with safety, and so safeguarded by governmental supervision and regulation as to give the fullest and freest opportunity for the development of land-owning agriculturists."

RAILROADS ON TRIAL.

New York, April 9.—In a speech in this city Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, declared that "private ownership and operation of the railroads is still on trial in this country."

With the statement went the warning that, while public opinion is now for such ownership and operation, "public opinion changes quickly."

"I have no doubt," he said, "that it would change and react against private ownership if the public felt that upon the whole it would get more satisfactory service in some other way.

"As I view the matter, private ownership and operation of the railroads is still on trial in this country, but it has everything in its favor and ought to win, and I believe it will win, if the managers, measured by the service which they give the public, deserve to win."

PASS TENURE BILL.

Sacramento, Cal., April 9.—The state assembly has passed the teachers' tenure bill, which provides that after serving a probationary term of two years school teachers shall be classified as permanent and can be removed only after charges have been preferred against them and are sustained in open court.

In various parts of the state teachers of acknowledged competency have been dropped without opportunity to defend themselves. To remedy this condition organized labor got behind the organized teachers in their demand for protection against the caprice of petty politicians who happen to be members of a school board.

PRICE RISE AT HAND.

Washington, April 9.—Prices have reached their low level and will now begin to rise, is the prediction of D. R. Crissinger, comptroller of the currency, in an interview in the local press.

"I believe we are just at the turning point," he said. "We will soon see goods moving more rapidly, and higher prices prevailing for many of the articles which are now selling so far out of line."

This statement is a contradiction to the claims of those who are urging wage reductions.

RESIST WAGE CUTS.

Los Angeles, Cal., April 9.—The barrage by propagandists against alleged high wages of building craftsmen did not affect delegates to the annual convention of the California state building trades council. These unionists showed that living costs are much higher, when compared with 1914, than wage increases, which have averaged 80 per cent, while building material prices are still as high as 400 per cent in many cases.

WHAT NON-UNIONISM MEANS.

Belmar, N. J., April 9.—"Free and independent" workers at this place are less inclined to accept the claims of anti-unionists since contracting teamsters reduced wages. The organized teamsters refused to accept the cut, but the unorganized were reduced from $27 for a week of 44 hours to $21 for 54 hours.

COOPERS SETTLE STRIKE.

Houston, Texas, April 9.—Coopers' union No. 98 has settled its strike against the Texas Barrel company, President Hughes of the Coopers' International union assisted. The union shop is agreed to and the 44-hour week installed.

NEW TAXATION PLAN FAVORED BY BIG BIZ

Washington, April 9.—The demand that "our revenue laws be revised" is the opening propaganda by special interests for legislation that will repeal the excess profits tax and place a direct tax on the consumer.

While the details are not agreed upon, these interests are united in the belief that the $800,000,000 raised through excess profit taxes, should be shifted to the consumer through a turnover tax or a sales tax.

On a turnover tax on leather, for instance, there would be at least eight levies, starting when the farmer sold to the cattle buyer. The hide dealer would pay another tax, followed by the tanner, the leather merchant, the shoe manufacturer, the jobber, the retailer, and the final customer, with prices pyramided by each transaction because of the tax.

A sales tax would mean a direct tax on the ultimate customer, rather than a tax on the various processes of production which would be the rule under a turnover tax.

Opponents of the new taxation system declare that there is not a recognized tax expert that favored the plan before extensive hearings by a congressional committee, and that the only pleaders were special interests who now charge that the industrial depression can be traced to the excess profits tax, which is a drain on business. When prices were high the claim was made that the excess profits tax was responsible.

Special interests are organizing for the purpose of urging the next congress to change the present system so no check will be made on their profits.

REDUCE TEACHERS' PAY.

Wilmette, Ill., April 9.—The wide-spread agitation for a teachers' living wage has subsided and the pendulum is swinging the other way, according to officials of the American Federation of Teachers.

"School boards in South Dakota, Kansas and New Jersey," it is stated, "have already voted substantial cuts in pay, while the subject of salary reduction is under discussion in Ohio, Nebraska, Illinois and Washington. The severest handling yet on record has been given the teachers of the Platte line schools of South Dakota where the organized school boards have slashed pay 25 per cent of the 1920 schedules.

"The inevitable result of such shortsightedness will be that still more teachers will leave the profession of teaching or shift from the grammar schools to the better paid high school positions. Nebraska, where salary reduction is under contemplation, is employing 1,700 teachers on emergency certificates."

AN IMPUDENT CLAIM.

Boston, April 9. — The graduate school of business administration, Harvard university, has issued what it declares to be "probably the first dictionary of labor terms as used by organized labor ever published."

The dictionary gives this definition of the "open shop:"

"A plant in which both union and non-union labor is employed without discrimination."

The dictionary ignores repeated declarations by organized labor that the "open shop" term is a tricky device used by anti-union employers in an attempt to conceal their hostility to collective bargaining and the right of employes to be represented by persons of their own choosing. The claim that organized labor accepts the "open shop" term is impudent.

The authors of the dictionary announce that it is intended for the use of employers "to enable them to secure a better understanding of the point of view of their (?) men."

ANNUL ASSESSMENT.

Chicago, April 9.—The Cigar Makers' International union has ordered a discontinuance of the 50-cent weekly assessment that was collected while the Tampa strike was on.

More than $1,000,000 was expended by this international in Tampa for the defense of trade union principles, and the union's treasury is stronger than ever, despite this drain at a time when other unusual demands were made upon it, because of anti-union drives. The incident proves the stability of bona fide trade unionism and the willingness of real trade unionists to meet financial obligations.

CARTER IS PUBLIC PRINTER.

Washington, April 9.—President Harding has appointed George H. Carter, of Iowa, to the position of public printer, succeeding Cornelius Ford, of New Jersey, who has held that position for eight years. The appointee has been a clerk of a congressional committee for 10 years. He learned to set type when a boy and in 1898 took up newspaper work in the Middle West. He came to Washington in 1907, where he was admitted to the bar. It is stated that he holds an honorary membership in one of the printing trades unions.

MILK CONCERN PROSPERS.

New York, April 9.—The Borden company, milk concern, announces a profit last year of $10.95 a share on the $21,368,100 common stock, after payment of preferred dividends. The company earned $17.80 a share in 1919, but since that time it has purchased real estate in the heart of the city and erected a 23-story office building thereon. This increased what is called the "property account" and lessened the amount given stockholders.

SIX LIVES COST $25.

New York, April 9.—An owner of a moving picture theater, where six children lost their lives in a fire scare last November, was fined $25 on a charge of permitting minors to enter the theater without parent or guardian. A partner of the owner was sentenced to 60 days in jail on the same charge.

STEREOTYPERS GAIN.

Elmira, N. Y., April 9.—The Stereotypers' union has advanced wages to the following figures: Foremen, morning and Sunday newspapers, $47 a week; foremen, evening newspapers, $44; journeymen, morning papers, $42; journeymen, evening papers, $39. The old scale, with bonus, was: Foremen, $[illegible]; journeyman, $[illegible].

KILLED AND INJURED IN INDUSTRY UNKNOWN

Washington, April 9.—It is not known how many industrial accidents occur yearly in the United States, says Margaret Gadsby, writing in the Monthly Labor Review, published by the United States bureau of labor statistics, on "Inadequacy of industrial accident statistics published in state reports."

"To what extent have workmen's compensation laws and the safety movement mitigated the accident evil in American industries? We are unable to determine with any degree of certainty. What are the causes of industrial accidents? What is the accident frequency rate in the leading industries; the accident severity rate? We do not know. Where can preventive measures be most effectively applied? It has never been adequately determined; there is no adequate comparable data.

"How many industrially disabled are there in the country who will be affected by the recent legislation extending the rehabilitation to the industrial cripple? No authoritative statistics are available. What is the annual loss in productive efficiency, through industrial accidents? What is the annual cost in time and money lost through accidents in industry? We do not know; there are no figures available by which it can be determined.

"Accurate data as to the number of accidents, the causes, nature of injury and degree of disability of accidents occurring in each industry are essential for effective prevention work, as well as for the establishment of adequate and reasonable compensation insurance rates.

"Not only is there no uniform method of tabulating statistics of accidents for the entire country, but also few states can be said to have accurate knowledge of the total number of accidents occurring within their borders."

HALF OF U. S. CAN VOTE.

Washington, April 9.—Approximately one-half of the population of the United States is of voting age, if findings announced by the census bureau for two states in which age statistics on the 1920 census returns have been worked out indicate conditions in all others. In Arkansas individuals over 21 years of age constitute 49.5 per cent of the state's total population and in Alabama they amount to 48.7 per cent.

The bureau is also finding more children in the country than in the cities, as far as the study has been completed. Children under 15 years in urban areas of Alabama constitute 29.6 of the total population there, while in rural territory they comprised 41.7 per cent of the total. Arkansas figures bore out the conclusion, giving 40.2 per cent of children in the country, and but 28.4 per cent in the cities.

More than a third of the country's total population in 1920, and nearly 70 per cent of the urban dwellers—37,770,114 persons to be exact—lived in the 289 cities of 25,000 inhabitants or more.

TAXPAYERS WILL WAKE UP.

Trenton, N. J., April 9.—Taxpayers will wake up when they are called upon to finance the $300,000 cossack system that has been established by the state legislature over the veto of Governor Edwards, declares Arthur Quinn, president of the state federation of labor.

"The present legislature," the trade unionist said, "is the most reactionary that New Jersey has had in many a year. Big interests rule, and the welfare of the people is given very little consideration. Many of the members are political accidents who have come here with all sorts of hobbies and who are trying to inflict these hobbies on the public. The state police bill means a burden of at least $300,000 on the people of the state, and nobody knows how much greater the burden will be as the years roll on and the usual efforts are made to increase the useless force."

A BRAZEN JUDGE.

New York, April 9.—Justice Van Siclen has declared that the courts "must stand at all times as the representatives of capital, of captains of industry, devoted to the principle of individual initiative," and the New York World asks this dispenser of justice what would prevent another judge from declaring in favor of organized labor.

Perhaps it did not accur to Justice Van Siclen, says this paper, "that the courts have no concern with the industrial struggle and should base their decrees on the merits of each separate case as it arises."

CHARGE TIMBER MONOPLY.

Trenton, N. J., April 9.—Four-fifths of the timber of America is in private hands and a monoply of powerful lumber dealers is slowly but surely destroying the country's forest resources, is the charge made by Gifford Pinchot, commissioner of forestry of Pennsylvania, in a letter to members of the state legislature. The forester said that timber is being devastated at the rate of 2,000,000,000 acres a year and that there is a concerted plan to give the Pacific states control of the timber in this section of the country.

STRIKERS STICK.

San Francisco, April 9.—Striking electricians of the Great Western Power company have rejected a proposal that they return to work with the understanding that the company will make a "satisfactory settlement." The strike was caused by a wage cut of $1 a day after the company secured permission to raise rates to meet wage increases. When the rates were established the company attempted to cut wages while customers continue paying the high rates.

PAPER HANGERS GAIN.

St. Louis, Mo., April 9.—After a month's strike the Paper Hangers' union has raised wages and abolished piece work. The old rate of $1 an hour is advanced to $1.25, which is the building trades' basic wage. The strikers showed that this wage is not high for a seasonal occupation. More than 375 workers are benefited.

HAS NO INFORMATION.

Chicago, April 9.—H. E. Loomis, president of the Lehigh Valley railroad, has declined to appear before the railway labor board to discuss differences with employes. The railroad executive informed the board that he had no information.

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occuring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

VOL. 11. NO. 3. SPECIAL EDITION WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1921. SPECIAL EDITION WHOLE NO. 523.

THE CHALLENGE ACCEPTED--Labor Will Not Be Outlawed Or Enslaved

Conference Declaration of Trade Union Representatives at Washington, February 23-24

We ask the American people to give solemn consideration to this declaration. It is the pronouncement of a movement that is consecrated to the cause of freedom as Americans understand freedom. It is the message of men and women who will not desert the cause of freedom, no matter what the tide of the struggle.

The American labor movement in this crucial hour here lays before the people the full story and asks them to rally with labor to the defense of our imperiled institutions.

Labor speaks from no narrow or selfish point of view. It speaks from the standpoint of American citizenship. And the indictment it lays is an indictment of the enemies of freedom and progress.

American labor battling for the preservation of American democracy and American institutions today stands between two converging destructive forces.

Standing between two opposing forces, uncompromising toward both, the American trade union movement today finds itself and every American institution of freedom assailed and attacked by the conscienceless autocrats of industry and the followers of radical European fanaticism. If either of these wins, the doors of democratic freedom and opportunity can never be reopened in our time.

Though inspired by vastly different motives, these two unrelenting forces work toward the destruction of the same ideals, each using the other as a tool in the struggle to overwhelm democracy and put an end to American progress, politically and industrially.

On the one hand Labor is compelled to meet in a wide variety of manifestations the determination of reactionary industrial autocrats, autocrats who would destroy the organizations of labor and remove from the field of industry the only agencies through which the workers may protect themselves from aggression, and the only agency through which they may offer to industry their co-operation in the improvement of industrial processes and the expansion of productive energy with that improvement of the product and lowering of prices justly demanded by the public.

REACTION CASTS OFF ALL PRETENSE

Reactionary employers have joined their might in a campaign which they are pleased to call a campaign for the "open shop," which they have been waging vigorously since the signing of the armistice. Compelled by the pressure of public opinion to accept Labor's co-operation during the war, when the utmost conservation of productive energy was necessary to the life of the nation, they cast off all pretense immediately upon the passing of the emergency.

This entire campaign on the part of the combined reactionary employers is in no sense a campaign for the "open shop," no matter what definition may be given to that term. The campaign is (distinctly and solely) one for a shop that shall be closed against union workmen. It is primarily a campaign disguised under the name of an "open shop" campaign, designed to destroy trade unions and to break down and eliminate the whole principle of collective bargaining which has for years been accepted by the highest industrial authorities and by the American people as a principle based upon justice and established permanently in our industrial life.

Not only during the war, but during every year since the labor movement has had a place in our industrial life, it has justified its existence and proved the necessity therefor, by making possible the necessary co-operation between employers and workers, on the one hand, and on the other hand by rescuing the workers from autocratic domination and developing for them a standard of living and of working conditions fitting to American citizenship. The American trade union movement is here because it is a necessity.

UNSCRUPULOUS FINANCIAL SPECULATION

The unscrupulous pirateers of finance having squeezed the consumer throughout the period of the war, are now broadening their field and enriching themselves by squeezing both the producer and the consumer. Fortunes are being made today by commodity and financial speculation.

FLAGRANT PROFITEERING CONTINUES.

It is astounding, but true, that even after so great a lapse of time since the ending of hostilities there is, so far as the average family is concerned, practically no reduction in the high cost of living. It is admitted freely that in some commodities there has been a reduction of price in the wholesale markets, but there has been no appreciable reduction in the retail prices at which the working people must make their purchases.

Labor has time after time indicted the employers and the commercial interests of the country for wanton profiteering. We declare again that the government has been and continues impotent in the face of the criminal operations of profiteers and must therefore accept the responsibility for a great portion of the indignation and resentment of the people against those who have filched their pockets for no reason except that they have had the power to do so.

Going hand in hand with profiteering there has been, and is, a shameful and undoubtedly unjustified over-capitalization of industrial and commercial projects, compelling the consuming public to pay interest in the form of inflated prices on vast sums of money, back of which there is no foundation of intrinsic value or productive capacity.

CURTAILING CONSUMING POWER

Due to the maladministration of industry, and principally and primarily because of the studied and calculated arbitrary policies of reactionary employers, there has come upon us a state of unemployment which is depriving fully three and one-half million working people of the opportunity to earn a living. That there should be this tragic situation at a time when hardly any portion of the world has a sufficient supply of the necessaries of life is a commentary upon the methods of those responsible for the conduct of industry which they can not justify. It is a rebuke to their methods which only prompt and fundamental remedial action can remove. The condition of unemployment has been accentuated by keeping open the flood gates of immigration, which has added to the confusion and given employers an additional weapon in their efforts to reduce the American standard of living.

One result is the effort to lower wages. The stupidity of such policies as these, whether or not apparent to employers inspired only by a desire for monetary gain, is a matter which should give the most serious concern to the American people as a whole. Every reduction of wages is a reduction in the consuming power of the wage-earners and a direct blow at the prosperity and well-being of the country.

Labor not only insists upon maintaining the present standards of wages and working conditions, but declares its solemn purpose to continue its struggle to further improve those standards.

Where the unorganized workers are concerned, while they benefit by the protests and progress of the organized workers, they find themselves unable to meet properly the present crucial situation. Their recourse is to join the organizations of their trades or callings, and we demand for them the right freely to follow such a course and to exercise all of the powers and privileges which that implies. Collective bargaining is one of the great stabilizing influences in industry in the relations between employers and workers. It is censurable that employers have in too many instances dissipated these friendly and mutually advantageous arrangements. We strongly urge upon both employers and unions to keep inviolate the instrumentality of collective bargaining.

TRAGIC PENALTIES OF MALADMINISTRATION

Another manifestation of the unscientific and inhumane policies of industrial autocracy is found in what is commonly known as "labor turnover," which means the repeated hiring and discharging of individual workers without any opportunity for an expression on the part of those workers in determining the terms or the conditions under which they shall give service.

This endless movement of workers from shop to shop, with its inevitable burden of idleness and loss of production, is the individual protest of the unorganized against conditions of employment which they have no power to remedy. Where there is organization of labor and the opportunity for negotiation and agreement, labor turnover is eliminated as a check and drain on industrial life.

Those manifestations of autocratic policy in industry already cited are almost entirely of a purely industrial character. There remain other abuses equally serious, if not more so, finding expression more often through our political machinery. Through reactionary decisions of courts, through the unwarranted and reckless use of the writ of injunction, through laws establishing industrial courts and boards, through compulsory arbitration laws, and through the utter failure of Congress and of state legislative bodies to attempt anything which might serve as a stimulus to labor in these trying times, the welfare of the entire country, and, in fact, the stability of many of our democratic institutions are most seriously menaced. These are matters of paramount interest to every American.

INDUSTRIAL COURTS DESTROY FREEDOM

Through the establishment of industrial courts, employers are seeking to inject into American industrial life a device through which they may annul constitutional guarantees and deprive workers of freedom and of the right to function through their organizations. Aside from the denial of guaranteed rights brought about by the establishment of industrial courts, these instruments serve to create in industry a disharmony which inevitably must result in a chaotic industrial condition and consequent loss of production.

The joint relationship between organized workers and employers which exists when these two industrial forces meet in voluntary conference to reach voluntary agreements is a relationship of negotiation; that which exists when industrial courts are established to determine the conditions in industry is a relationship between litigants—litigants never voluntarily yield a jot. Trade unionism establishes a condition of harmony through mutual effort toward a common purpose, while the industrial court establishes a condition of antagonism, each party in hostile suit against the other, and each inevitably hostile toward the court itself when the decision is unfavorable. Industrial courts and the like, created by law, are pernicious devices, the fundamental error of which must become more clear as time passes. The paradox of the situation is that those employers who look upon them as devices for their benefit and who are propagating the idea with the zeal of faddists will, in the long run, suffer equally with labor as a penalty for their short-sightedness.

INJUNCTIONS RESTORE FEUDALISM

The revival of the unrestrained use of the injunction also imperils the stability of our economic structure. For six years the Clayton Act, accepted on all sides as the established law of the land, to an appreciable degree checked the abuse of the writ of injunction. A majority of the justices of the Supreme Court have swept away this strong barrier against a feudalistic legal concept, and labor finds itself again at the mercy of an unlimited use of judge-made law. The injunction as it is now used and abused in labor disputes is without sanction either in the constitution or in the fundamental law of the land. It is a pure usurpation of power and authority. The only possible and practical remedy in the face of a power so usurped and so completely unjustified lies in a flat refusal on the part of labor to recognize or abide by the terms of injunctions which seek to prohibit the doing of acts which the workers have a lawful and guaranteed right to do, or which seek to compel workers to do those things which they have a lawful and guaranteed right to refuse to do. This is the only immediate course through which labor can find relief, and this course it purposes to pursue. Labor realizes fully the consequences of such a course, but in the defense of American freedom and of American institutions it is compelled to adopt this course, be the consequences what they may.

The workers maintain that the constitution of the United States is a living document, its provisions and guarantees as applicable today as when they were adopted. The workers maintain that in their everyday life and work rights which the Constitution declares to be inalienable, should in practice, as well as in theory, be inalienable. Among these rights is the right to liberty—freedom from involuntary servitude or compulsory labor, except as punishment for crime. This guarantee of the thirteenth amendment lives, and the workers are determined that it shall not be denied them. Nor shall this guarantee of their freedom be so distorted as to compel a group slavery in modern industry as reprehensible as was the individual chattel slavery of old. Slavery, compulsory labor, the tying of men to their jobs, will be no more tolerated now than was chattel slavery then. It has no more right to exist and is just as repugnant under our democratic form of government as it would be under a monarchical, bureaucratic or any other form of government.

The Clayton Act was made a law by Congress and by the signature of the President for the express purpose of collecting a condition under which cases such as the Danbury Hatters' case were possible. It was made law for the express purpose of instructing judges in the limitation of their powers. Shortly after placing his signature to the Clayton Act with its labor provisions the President of the United States made the following declaration:

"A man's labor is not a commodity, but a part of his life. The courts must not treat it as if it were a commodity, but must treat it as if it were part of his life. I am sorry that there were any judges who had to be told that. It is so obvious that it seems to me as if section 6 of the Clayton Act were a return to the primer of human liberty; but if the judges have to have the primer opened before them, I am willing to open it."

TRADE UNIONS DEFEND LIBERTY

The greatest force in American life capable of restraining predatory capital and to that extent capable of maintaining the democratic institutions of the country is the trade union movement. The trade union movement would be false to its trust, false to the ideals of our Republic, and false to the great public whose confidence it must have, as well as false to its own members, whose interests it is organized to protect, if it neglected any proper effort in behalf of the liberty or well-being of the great masses of our people.

To that end this movement of the organized workers sets its face against all forms of compulsion, including such devices as so-called industrial courts, the un-American and repugnant idea of compulsory arbitration and the vicious, tyrannical abuse of the writ of injunction. Through such devices, in addition to the great danger which they constitute to the general public welfare, legislative enactments are set aside so that the organizations of labor may be mulcted, crippled or destroyed. Through such devices voluntary, democratic and constructive organizations of labor are practically outlawed.

LABOR RESISTS REACTION

However great may be the determination of the institutions of reaction to destroy the organizations of labor by these means, the resistance of labor will be uncompromising and unremitting. The organizations of labor must not and will not be destroyed. Trade unions foster education, uproot ignorance, shorten hours, lengthen life, raise wages, increase independence, develop manhood, balk tyranny, reduce prejudice, protect rights, abolish wrongs, and make the world better.

It should be the purpose of government properly to stimulate our industrial processes. It should be the purpose of government to make voluntary negotiation more easily entered into. If, on the other hand, all of the safeguards set up in our constitutional and legal structure for the protection of the workers are to be destroyed by judicial construction, as the vitality of the Clayton Act has been destroyed, then labor demands the immediate and sweeping repeal of all of that body of laws known as anti-combination and conspiracy laws.

Labor is anxious to serve. It has made this declaration repeatedly. It has lived and practiced that determination. It has done this in the face of most wanton and brutal opposition. Government has given little assistance. It has even destroyed the simplest and most obvious beginning of what might have been an effective employment service. Labor repeats it is time for the immediate and comprehensive restoration of this service.

FANATICAL PROPAGANDA AND INTRIGUE

Converging upon labor from the extreme right is autocratic reaction, while from the opposite extreme is the insidious propaganda of radical European fanaticism, which is particularly and peculiarly deadly in its hatred of the American labor movement because of its democratic character and its steadfast refusal to adopt revolutionary destructive policies. It is a curious and startling fact that this propaganda of fanaticism has the sympathy and support of many of those in our country who style themselves as liberals, but who do not distinguish between that which is truly liberal and that which is destructive and fraudulent.

Because of its opposition to the American labor movement, this overseas propaganda has even secured in the United States the support, at times secret, of some of the most reactionary American employers because of a common antagonism to the trade union movement. There is an unscrupulousness and a natural aptitude for intrigue in this fanatical propaganda which makes it a most subtle menace to every democratic ideal and institution in our country.

This propaganda, this constant effort to undermine the constructive organizations of American labor, this constant poisoning of the very foundation of our democracy, finds its expression everywhere and through countless agencies. It is assisted in its work of destruction not only by the publications devoted to a perverted expression of "liberal" thought, but it is assisted as well by many of those who speak from our platforms and who write and edit our periodical publications and our daily newspapers. Much of this assistance is involuntary

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.

PRINTING TRADES IS NEXT ADDITION TO 44-HOUR LIST

Will Employers Ignore This 44-Hour Agreement?

In March, 1919, there was formed in the city of Cincinnati an organization to be known as the International Joint Conference Council of the commercial and periodical branches of the printing industry. Its purpose was to consider ways and means for the improvement of the printing industry in the United States. Its membership is composed of both representatives of employers and employes composing the following organizations:

Employes—International Typographical Union, International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, International Stereotypers and Electrotypers' Union.

Employers—Closed Shop Branch United Typothetae of America, Printers' League of America, International Association of Employing Electrotypers.

One of the important questions to be taken up by the Joint Conference Council was the introduction of the 44-hour work week in the printing industry, and in April, 1919, the following resolution was adopted upon that question:

RESOLUTION ON FORTY-FOUR HOURS.

"Resolved, That both parties are to submit to their respective bodies: that, beginning May 1, 1921, the 44-hour week will prevail nationally in the printing industry and that each side recommend the adoption of this resolution to their constituent bodies and report to the next meeting of the International Joint Conference Council."

The question was acted upon by the various bodies represented in the council, as the following, from the minutes of the meeting of September 15, 1919, shows:

Mr. Kalkhoff—This resolution was passed at the meeting of the Closed Shop Branch of the United Typothetae of America on September 15:

"Whereas, The National Joint Conference Council, composed on the one hand of duly accredited representatives of the United Typothetae of America, Closed Shop Branch, the Printers' League of America, the International Association of Employing Electrotypers, and on the other hand of the presidents of the International Typographical Union, the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, the International Stereotypers' and Electrotypers' Union and the International Bookbinders' Union, at a meeting held in Chicago, April 23, 1919, mutually agreed to recommend to their various bodies the adoption of the 44-hour week on May 1, 1921:

"Resolved by the Closed Shop Branch of the United Typothetae of America, in annual convention assembled in New York, on September 15, 1919, in accordance with the intent expressed by the National Joint Conference Council, That we hereby agree to the introduction of the 44-hour week in the Closed Shop Branch on May 1, 1921.

"This, Mr. Chairman, was unanimously adopted by that body."

By the fall of 1920 the "open shop" element had launched a campaign against the national agreement, and an effort was made to get the United Typothetae, Closed Shop Branch, to abrogate its agreement. This effort failed, and that body at its convention in St. Louis, September 15, 1920 reaffirmed its agreement to the 44-hour week. An attempt was made to get the International Joint Conference Council to reconsider the agreement, and employers of the Southeastern states succeeded in getting a meeting of the council at Atlanta, Ga., December 14, 1920. The council, after thorough discussion, reaffirmed its stand, and adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas, There exists the International Joint Conference Council, composed of the organized sections of the commercial and periodical branch of the printing industry, with representatives of the closed shop branch of the United Typothetae of America, the Printers' League of America, and the International Association of Employing Electrotypers for the Employers' Group and representatives of four organizations of labor in the printing industry, namely: The International Typographical Union, the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, the International Stereotypers' and Electrotypers' Union, and the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders and,

"Whereas, This Joint Conference Council at a meeting held in Chicago, April 21, 1919, adopted as a method of peaceful settlement, through conciliation and arbitration of industrial disputes, the following preamble to its constitution:

"Only through joint conference in the spirit of mutual helpfulness between employes and employers can the foundation be laid for stable and prosperous conditions within the printing industry. To promote the spirit of co-operation and to deal with the problems of the industry in a way to insure the protection of the interests of all concerned, the establishment of an International Joint Conference Council, made up of representatives of employers and employes, which shall be thoroughly informed as to conditions and interests of all parties in the industry and in a position to suggest for ratification regulations which shall eventually become the law of the industry, is considered essential.

"Compulsory arbitration by law is deemed impractical as a means of adjusting controversies between employers and employes. Controversies between employers and employes can and should be adjusted through voluntary agreements to refer disputes to boards of conciliation and arbitration composed of representatives of employers and employes in the industry affected. It is in this spirit of arbitration and conciliaton that the organization and operation of a Joint International Conference Council for the Printing Industry and Allied Trades is undertaken.

"Whereas, The Joint Conference Council at the same meeting in Chicago, April 21, 1919, passed a resolution recommending for the approval of its constituent bodies the introduction of the 44-hour week on May 1, 1921; and,

"Whereas, This resolution was ratified and adopted by all of the constituent bodies members of the Joint Conference Council; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That it is the sense of the Joint Conference Council at its meeting held in Atlanta, Ga., upon the invitation of a group of Atlanta employing printers, December 13 and 14, 1920, that all members of the constituent bodies of the council are morally obligated to use every constitutional process through conciliation and arbitration for peaceful settlement of industrial disputes and the council condemns any action in the handling of industrial disputes in violation of these general principles; and be it further

"Resolved, That this Joint Conference Council considers all members of its constituent bodies are morally bound to adopt and put into effect the 44-hour week on May 1, 1921."

Printing trades unions are preparing to swing this industry into the 44-hour week column, and May 1 next is the date set for the Saturday half holiday in the commercial and periodical branches of the North American printing industry.

The unions involved are the international organizations of printers, pressmen, bookbinders and stereotypers. These, together with a large section of employers formed the international joint conference council, in March, 1919. Strong declarations in favor of conciliatory methods and agreements were made by both parties, and in the following April the council recommended that both parties submit the question of the 44-hour week, effective May 1, 1921, to their respective bodies. The 44-hour week was adopted by the members of all affiliated organizations, and at a meeting of the council, held in Atlanta, last December, it was declared:

"That this joint conference council considers all members of its constituent bodies are morally bound to adopt and put into effect the 44-hour week on May 1, 1921."

Despite these repeated declarations for the shorter work week, and harmony in the industry, some employers are now attempting to evade their responsibility and their pledged word.

In a recent conference in Cincinnati employers formed the "eight-hour league" and are using the same arguments against the Saturday half holiday that they used against the 48-hour week, 13 years ago.

In Chicago on April 2 these employers conferred with representatives of the interested printing trades and urged that the demand for the 44-hour week be withdrawn. This was unanimously rejected by the labor representatives, who insist that pledges be lived up to.

One of the most glaring violations of the employers' pledge is recorded in Denver, where employers are running large advertisements in the daily press to justify their contract breaking. The chairman of the Denver typothetae—the employers' organization—who signs his name to these advertisements, was one of the two Denver delegates to the convention of the United Typothetae, union shop branch, in New York, September, 1919, which unanimously indorsed the 44-hour week to become effective May 1, 1921.

Every anti-union element in the country is lending its support to these employers in an effort to check the 44-hour week in the printing trades. These employers see in this humane movement a menace to their long-hour systems.

The four trade unions are united in their determination to enforce the agreement. The members are thoroughly grounded in the necessity for united action. They are disciplined, resourceful and well equipped to insist that the Saturday half holiday be applied, as per schedule arranged two years ago.

This movement means more than a controversy between a group of organized workers and their employers. Its strategic importance is appreciated by anti-union individuals and organizations that well realize the effect and inspiration that success in the printing trades will have on workers in other industries.

The unions are also awake to this phase of the question, and while they are pleading for orderly methods and the pledged word in the changing of working conditions, they are determined that the 44-hour week will be a fact on the date agreed to by employer and employed.

Forty-four Hour Week Is Indorsed by A. F. of L.

The trade union movement of North America is committed to the eight-hour day and Saturday half holiday.

At the last convention of the American Federation of Labor a report to this effect was adopted and the A. F. of L. executive council was instructed to "lend its assistance in the fullest degree to any organization seeking to establish the shorter work day."

The main points of the convention's declaration follow:

Reasonable hours of labor promote the economic and social well-being of the toiling masses. Their attainment should be one of labor's principal and essential activities. The shorter workday and a shorter work week make for a constantly growing, higher and better standard of productivity, health, longevity, morals and citizenship.

The right of labor to fix its hours of work must not be abrogated, abridged or interfered with.

The day's working time should be limited to not more than eight hours, with overtime prohibited, except under the most extraordinary emergencies. The week's working time should be limited to not more than five and one-half days.

In giving consideration to a shorter workday at this time there are many things to be taken into consideration. In the first place, it must be realized that during the war five million of the most active young men in the country were taken from industries for war service. In spite of this production of the country during the war period was greater than it had been at any other given period in history.

Labor organizations for many years have been fighting to secure the eight-hour day, once known as the shorter workday. This eight-hour day meant 48 hours of labor per week. Because of the changed conditions brought about by the war a number of industries have been able already to introduce the 44-hour week, continuing the eight-hour day with a half holiday on Saturday.

Only 12 years ago the International Typographical union expended more than four million dollars in securing for its members the 48-hour week in the printing industry. The garment working trades have succeeded in securing the 44-hour week. Other industries have done or are doing likewise. Your committee believes it will be but a short time till the eight-hour day with a half-holiday Saturday, meaning a 44-hour week, will be the universal hours of labor and adopted in all industries.

While this is most desirable, and your committee recognizes that the executive council has used all its available power for the purpose of assisting in bringing about a 44-hour week in all of the crafts, it advises this convention to go even further than this.

There is at the present time a large volume of unrest among the workingmen on this continent. There can be no doubt but that there are two reasons for this unusual condition—first, the high cost of the necessities of life; second, unemployment.

Until wages are so adjusted that the earnings of labor will buy the same amount of the necessities of life that could be purchased by the earnings previous to the war, this unrestful exhibit by the working people has a foundation for its existence that cannot be set aside. Previous to the war the dollar earned by labor would buy a certain amount of a certain quality of food and clothing. The dollar earned at the present time will also buy a certain amount of a certain quality of food and clothing, but it will not buy the same amount that the dollar earned previous to the war would buy. Until this gap is bridged and the wages increased so that the same amount of the same quality of goods can be bought with the dollar of today as was possible before the war, the condition of the laborer will be less desirable than in the prewar period. Manufacturers and employers of labor should recognize this fact and increase the wages to this point without any controversy.

Your committee, therefore, recommends further that the executive council lend its assistance in the fullest degree to any organization seeking to establish a shorter work day that will provide for the employment of all its members. The organization itself must necessarily be the judge of what should be the length of the workday in the industry over which it has jurisdiction. When it has decided and established its claim to shorter hours, no matter what they may be, then the American Federation of Labor should lend its fullest assistance, and your committee so recommends.

There is much propaganda being put forth at the present time that has for its object the making of people believe that organized labor is seeking to curtail production, and it is frequently suggested that the hours of labor should be increased for the purpose of insuring everybody against suffering for lack of the necessities of life.

The words "increased production" have a magic sound to the profiteering manufacturer, but only for the reason that its realization will increase his profits and place him in better position to control industry. Your committee believes that the employer should have a fair return from labor for a fair day's pay, but it resents the idea that there must be a constantly increased return from labor solely for the benefit of such employer.

KEEP WAGES UP.

Business stagnation will be best averted by reducing the hours of labor, not by reducing wages. We are not living for the moment but for all time, and we must make provision today for the needs of tomorrow. No man looks forward to starvation as an ideal. The American standard of living is the basis of America's power. That standard must be upheld.—Samuel Gompers.

SHADOWS OF UNREST.

The union shop is based on economic advantage and mutual interest. The anti-union shop is, in the long run, wasteful because it means friction and lack of responsibility of the workers. If half the money that is being spent to destroy the labor movement were applied to constructive plans for industrial stability, there would not today be millions of idle men and women in the country nursing grudges against society and the menace of revolution would not be haunting our doors.—Samuel Gompers.

THE CHALLENGE ACCEPTED---Labor Will Not Be Outlawed Or Enslaved

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.

and unconscious, which testifies to the subtlety of the propaganda and to the need for constant study and alertness on the part of all those who have at heart the preservation of democratic life in America.

LABOR'S PURPOSEFUL DETERMINATION

In face of the situation here set forth, which is still further embittered by the activities of private detectives and agents provocateur paid by many employers, the American trade union movement, speaking through its duly authorized representatives, offers on the one hand constructive practical suggestions for relief and remedy, and on the other hand utters its uncompromising protest against the injustices and the autocratic policies which reaction seeks to impose. It declares in measured and emphatic tones its unalterable determination to resist at every point and with its entire strength the encroachments both of industrial tyranny and fanatical, revolutionary propaganda. The American labor movement is determined at all costs to maintain that freedom and those liberties which constitute American democracy. The labor movement believes this policy to be one embodying the highest statesmanship, as the only policy that can preserve and maintain and develop that harmonious relationship in industry without which our productive processes must be sacrificed to a reign of chaotic disorganization. The labor movement offers those voluntary and conciliatory methods of negotiation, arbitration and agreement through which it is possible to develop in our industrial life the highest degree of good will and the highest degree of productivity, in order that there may be for all of our people the fullest enjoyment of life and the loftiest standards of life.

VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE IS VITAL

The effort to crush the voluntary organizations of the workers may be designed by employers as an effort to secure their own immediate enrichment, but no such effort can stop at that point. Whether its sponsors will it or not, it is an effort to bring upon our whole national organization of society unprecedented disaster and retrogression. The principle of voluntary agreement is the kernel from which has grown the success of this country as a democracy. If that is destroyed in our industrial life, it can not exist in any other phase of our life, and the social organization that has made America must crumble and disappear. Neither the principle of state dictatorship nor the principle of private autocratic dictation in industry can be permitted to gain a foothold in America, for where either of these comes in freedom and democracy must cease to be.

American trade unionists have long since made their choice of principles. Their movement is founded upon the principles laid down in the foundation stones of the republic. It is now for the American people as a people to make a choice. We are confronted with a supreme crisis. Not even in the days when the nation hovered on the brink of war was the situation more critical. The path of progress and constructive peaceful achievement and evolution is laid down by the trade union movement. The road to autocracy, unfreedom and chaos is laid down by its enemies. The choice is now before the country.

This conference calls for public support and recognition of:

The right of the working people of the United States to organize into trade unions for the protection of their rights and interests.

The right to, and practice of, collective bargaining by trade unions through representatives of their own choosing.

The right to work and to cease work collectively.

The right collectively to bestow or withhold patronage.

The right to the exercise of collective activities in furtherance of the welfare of labor.

This conference proposes and urges public support for:

Enactment by Congress of legislation which shall protect the workers in their organized capacity against the concept that there is a property right in the labor of a human being.

No application of the use of injunctions in industrial disputes where they would not apply in the absence of such disputes.

Prohibition of immigration for a period of not less than two years.

More general application of the initiative and referendum in the political affairs of the United States and of our several states.

Removal by Congress of the usurped power of courts to declare unconstitutional laws enacted by Congress.

Election of judges.

Immediate restoration of exemption from or the repeal of all anti-combination and so-called conspiracy laws.

Restoration of an adequate federal employment service.

Administration of credit as a public trust in the interest of all the people.

Repeal by the states of all industrial court laws and all restrictive and coercive laws, including the so-called open port law of Texas, and freedom from decisions of courts holding trade unions and individual members thereof liable in damages for the unlawful acts of others.

Enactment by Congress of a law declaring that labor organizations are not co-partnerships and shall not be so treated in law or in equity.

Investigation by Congress of the activities of so-called private detective agencies in the field of industrial relations.

We urge upon the unorganized workers the urgent necessity of joining the unions of their trades and callings, their haven of refuge and protection.

We call upon the workers to resist the efforts to destroy trade unions, whether by the false pretense of the "open shop," the usurped authority of courts through writs of injunction, or otherwise.

We call upon the trade unions for a closer banding together, a greater solidarity and unity of purpose.

We call for united support in the protection of standards of wages and conditions already gained, and we summon the workers to continued efforts to increase the consuming power, raise the standards and improve the conditions of life and work.

We call upon the workers and all of our people to give their support, their effort and their combined strength of righteous purpose to this appeal for the preservation of the spirit and the letter of that great declaration which was written to guarantee to all Americans "the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" and freedom from involuntary servitude.

To the above declaration and appeal we, the officers and other representatives of the national and international trade unions of America, assembled in the Executive Council Chamber of the American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C., February 23, 1921, pledge ourselves and those whom we represent.

FRANK GILLMORE, Treasurer,
HARRY MOUNTFORD, Secretary,
Associated Actors and Artists of America.

JOSEPH A. MULLANEY, President,
E. A. JOHNSON,
International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers.

A. A. MYRUP,
JOHN GEIGER,
Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union of America.

FRANK X. NOSCHANG, President,
JACOB FISCHER, Secretary-Treasurer,
Journeymen Barbers' International Union.

JOHN JILSON, President,
International Alliance of Bill Posters and Billers of America.

M. W. MARTIN,
International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers.

JOHN J. DOWD, Vice-President,
International Brotherhood of Boiler Makers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America.

WALTER N. REDDICK, President,
DAVID T. DAVIES, Secretary-Treasurer,
International Brotherhood of Bookbinders.

COLLIS LOVELY, President,
C. L. BAINE, Secretary,
Boot and Shoe Workers' Union.

JOSEPH PROEBSTLE, Financial Secretary,
ALBERT J. KUGLER, Organizer,
International Union of the United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America.

W. J. BOWEN, President,
THOS. R. PREECE, Vice-President,
Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union of America.

FRANK KASTEN, President,
The United Brick and Clay Workers of America.
JOHN R. McMULLEN,
Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' International Association.

G. W. PERKINS, President,
SAMUEL GOMPERS, Vice-President,
Cigarmakers' International Union of America.

WADE SHURTLEFF,
JOHN J. KELEHER,
Brotherhood of Railway Clerks.
THOS. F. FLAHERTY, Secretary-Treasurer,
National Federation of Postal Clerks.
E. E. BAKER, President,
H. J. CONWAY, Secretary-Treasurer,
Retail Clerks' International Protective Association.
W. S. WARFIELD, President,
Order of Sleeping Car Conductors.

JOS. KUNZ, Vice-President,
W. J. WILSON, Vice-President,
Coopers' International Union of North America.

C. L. ROSEMUND, President,
International Federation of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Unions.

JAMES P. NOONAN, President,
JULIA S. O'CONNOR,
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America.

FRANK FEENEY, President,
International Union of Elevator Constructors.

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National Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association of the United States of America.

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H. M. COMERFORD, Secretary,
International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers.

PETER J. BRADY, Vice-President,
THEO. GREIFZU,
International Photo-Engravers' Union of North America.

HOWARD S. NUTTER,
International Steel and Copper Plate Engravers' League.
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ETHEL M. SMITH,
National Federation of Federal Employes.
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International Fur Workers' Union of the United States and Canada.
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FRNK P. BENNETT,
National Window Glass Workers.
JAMES DUNCAN, President,
Granite Cutters' International Association of America.

M. F. GREENE, President,
MARTIN LAWLOR, Secretary-Treasurer,
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EDWARD FLORE, President,
JERE L. SULLIVAN, Secretary-Treasurer,
Hotel and Restaurant Employes' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America.
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International Union of Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers.
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M. T. FINNAN,
National Association of Letter Carriers.
ANTHONY J. CHLOPEK,
JOSEPH P. RYAN,
International Longshoremen's Association.
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E. C. DAVISON, Secretary-Treasurer,
International Association of Machinists.
JOHN H. PRUETT, President,
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American Association of Masters, Mates and Pilots.
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THOS. REDDING, Vice-President,
Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers' International Alliance.
CHAS. H. MOYER, President,
JOHN TURNEY,
International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.
JOHN L. LEWIS, President,
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United Mine Workers of America.
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International Molders' Union of North America.
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Pattern Makers' League of North America.
CARL BERGSTROM, President,
Paving Cutters' Union of the United States of America and Canada.

JOHN H. DONLIN,
PETER G. COOK,
Operative Plasterers International Association of the United States and Canada.
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FRANK J. KENNEDY,
United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada.
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National Brotherhood of Operative Potters.
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United Powder and High Explosive Workers of America.
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International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers of the United States and Canada.
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B. LOUDEN, Assistant President,
Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen of America.

SAMUEL GOMPERS, President,
JAMES DUNCAN, First Vice-President,
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WILLIAM GREEN, Fourth Vice-President,
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International Union of Timber Workers.
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Tobacco Workers' International Union.
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The Steel Plate Transferrers' Association of America.
TITO PACELLI, Secretary-Treasurer,
Tunnel and Subway Constructors' International Union.
JOHN McPARLAND, President,
J. W. HAYS, Secretary-Treasurer,
International Typographical Union.
JOHN F. CURLEY, President,
American Wire Weavers' Protective Association.
H. E. WILLS, Assistant Grand Chief,
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.
P. J. McNAMARA, Vice-President,
C. V. McLAUGHLIN, Vice-President,
Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.
W. L. McMENNINN, Deputy President,
W. N. DOAK, Vice-President,
Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.
WM. J. SPENCER, Secretary-Treasurer,
Building Trades Department, American Federation of Labor.
A. J. BERRES, Secretary-Treasurer,
Metal Trades Department, American Federation of Labor.
JAMES LORD, President,
Mining Department, American Federation of Labor.
JOHN J. MANNING, Secretary-Treasurer,
Union Label Trades Department, American Federation of Labor.

INTERESTS ARE NOT IDENTICAL.

The interests of the employer and the employe are in no sense identical. Do not confuse that point. They have not an identity of interest, but they have a co-operation of interest—the same co-operation of interest which exists between a manufacturer and his best customer. No intelligent manufacturer will sell so much or at such a price that his customer must lose money. It is just as much his concern to see that his customer makes money as it is to see that he manufactures—for without the one there can not be the other.

Many employers do not recognize the psychological change that comes about through union organization. The man who does not belong to an organization is very apt to say, "What are you going to do with the boss? He has all the money. He has all the power. What is a fellow going to do?" I have heard this feeling of impotence expressed over and over again, and because the men feel that they are impotent the employer, unless he is a very remarkable man, will feel much the same way, and he may be gripped by the fetish of absolute, arbitrary power. He thinks that he is the whole show. The worker, on the other hand, when he organizes for the first time usually acquires a swelling feeling of power. He begins to think that he and not the employer is in control—that is, he gets into exactly the same attitude of mind as is shown by the absolute employer. This is a well-recognized stage of union development and it is good for the men to get this feeling, and for the employer to fear them just as the employes used to fear him, for out of the mutual fear arises in the course of time and inevitably the sensing by both that neither is running the show all alone—and that the only way for either to get on is through co-operation. That co-operation develops the very finest possible relation in which both sides are not only fair but independent and manly.

Therefore, as an employer, if my employes were not organized, I should insist upon their organization and I should put the matter of basic wages and hours out of the way through a collective agreement and should go on promoting the true idea that we are all associates in the same enterprise, but approaching from somewhat different standpoints.—Samuel Gompers, in "What I Should Do if I Were an Employer."

Compulsory Arbitration Endangers Liberty.

Voluntary arbitration of industrial disputes is founded upon the rights of the parties to the questions at issue to have the decisive voice in reaching an agreement. Mutual consent in all the details of arranging the terms of settlement is essential to a harmonious conclusion.

Differences which cannot be adjusted by the parties themselves are referred, by nomination of all contenders, to a person who has no direct interest in the matter. The understanding, actual or implied, of both parties in issue is that the decision rendered by the nominee of both shall be accepted as final and made as effective as though it were the mutual decision.

This form of arbitration is founded upon the acceptance of both parties to an issue of the principle that gives each the right of full control over the issues each is contending for. It is a logical relationship, founded upon reason, insuring the peaceful conduct of industry, and establishing a proper relationship between workers and their employers.

Compulsory arbitration of labor disputes destroys the principles of bargaining, for both employers and workers, which the voluntary system accepts and, in a measure, guarantees. By the compulsory method, neither employers nor workers have any right in the selection of the arbitrator. His interest in the question in dispute is a mere matter of chance. His opinions as to the rights of the contenders may or may not be prejudicial to either. In any event, he is a fixed quantity, and to his judgment must be left the conditions of labor for the period determined upon.

There is, however, a greater question involved than the mere character of the judge or his opinions. Back of his decision stands the force of the state.

Through compulsory arbitration by law, the workers as workers and the employers as employers are restrained in the exercise of their individual rights in wage negotiations. By this act the state takes control of a purely personal relation.

Acceptance of this principle, in itself, endangers liberty. Generally applied to all personal relations, it will destroy liberty and breed tyranny. Slavery is the natural offspring of tyranny.

Aside from endangering the liberty of all the people, the results achieved by voluntary arbitration of industrial questions prove the compulsory method is wholly unnecessary. Statistics of the division of conciliation of the United States department of labor establish this fact. In 1920, there were nearly 700,000 workers involved in cases that were voluntarily adjusted.

These statistics embrace only those disputes in which the department actually took part. There were thousands of others in which the negotiations were carried on by workers and employers through trade agreements.

Advocates of compulsory arbitration in industrial disputes are toying with a dangerous gun. They are shooting at the workers, but the target they hit is liberty.

UNIONISM MOVES ALONG.

The trade union movement will grow, despite setbacks here and there. The unions are the historically developed organizations of the wage-earners of our country and of our time. They will increase in numbers, strength, power and wisdom, and the great bond of fellowship, already established, will be more firmly knit. To them is naturally committed the task of solving the great problems of life in abolishing all forms of wrongs and injustice and attaining all the rights to which the workers of our land so justly aspire. In union, there is strength; in strength, responsibility.—Samuel Gompers.

SHORT WORK DAY BEST.

An economic paradox is a "shorter work day means higher wages." Long hours of labor mean low wages. Short hours mean longer lives and more enjoyment of life. The shorter work day is the corner stone of national progress.

Government by Injunction--Misuse of Equity Power

By ANDREW FURUSETH,
President of the International Seamen's Union.

The modern use of the writ of injunction, especially in labor disputes, is revolutionary and destructive of popular government.

Our government was designed to be a government by law, said law to be enacted by the legislative branch, construed by the judiciary, and administered by the executive.

An injunction is "an extraordinary writ issued out of equity enjoining a threatened injury to property or property rights, where there is not a plain, adequate and complete remedy at law."

The definition of equity is "the application of right and justice to the legal adjustment of differences where the law by reason of its universality is deficient," or "that system of jurisprudence which comprehends every matter of law for which the common law provides no remedy * * * springing originally from the royal prerogative, moderating the harshness of the common law according to good conscience." In other words, it is the exercise of power according to the judgment and conscience of one man.

It was for this reason that in Great Britain whence the United States derives its system of equity, as well as of law, the equity power was limited to the protection of property or property rights, and in such cases only where there was no remedy at law; the words adequate and complete have been added here.

When the courts of equity take jurisdiction over and issue injunctions in labor disputes they do so to protect business, which, under late rulings by several courts, is held to be property. These rulings are disputed and condemned by other courts, which hold that relations between employers and employes, between buyer and seller, are personal relations, and as such, if regulated at all, are regulated by statute or common law only. If the latter contention be right, and of this we believe there can be no question, the ruling that makes business property, or the right to carry on or continue in business a property right, is revolutionary and must lead to a complete change, not only in our industrial, but in our political life. If the court of equity be permitted to regulate personal relations, it will gradually draw to itself all legislative power. If it be permitted to set aside or to enforce law, it will ultimately arrogate to itself jurisdiction now held by the law courts and abolish trial by jury.

EQUITY POWER COMES FROM ENGLAND.

The constitution confers equity power upon the courts by stating that they shall have jurisdiction in law and in equity in the same way that it makes it their duty to issue the writ of habeas corpus, and in substantially the same way as it provides for trial by jury. Equity power came to us as it existed in England at the time of the adoption of our constitution, and it was so limited and defined by English authorities that our courts could not obtain jurisdiction in labor disputes except by the adoption of a ruling that business is property. If business be property in the case of a strike or boycott, and can therefore be protected by the equity court against diminution of its usual income, caused by a strike or boycott conducted by the working people, then it necessarily must be property at other times, and therefore entitled to be protected against loss of income caused by competition from other manufacturers or business men. Business and the income from business would become territorial and would be in the same position as land and the income from land. The result would be to make all competition in trade unlawful; it would prevent anyone from engaging in trade or manufacture unless he comply with the whims and fancies of those who have their trade or means of production already established.

No one could enter into business except through inheritance, bequest, or sale.

In order to show the fallacy of this new definition of property we here state the accepted legal definition, business and labor:

DEFINITION OF PROPERTY.

Property means the dominion of indefinite right of user and disposition which one lawfully exercises over particular things or subjects and generally to the exclusion of all others. Property is ownership, the exclusive right of any person freely to use, enjoy, and dispose of any determinate object, whether real or personal. (English and American Encyclopedia of Law.)

Property is the exclusive right of possession, enjoying and disposing of a thing. (Century Dictionary.)

A right imparting to the owner a power of indefinite user, capable of being transmitted to universal successors by way of descent, and imparting to the owner the power of disposition from himself and his successors. (Austin, Jurisprudence.)

The sole and despotic dominion which one claims and exercises over the external things of the world in total exclusion of the right of any other individual in the world. (Blackstone.)

LABOR POWER NOT PROPERTY.

It will be seen that property is product of nature or of labor, and that the essential element is that it may be disposed of by sale, be given away, or in any other way transferred to another.

There is no distinction in law between property and property rights.

From these definitions it is plain that labor power or patronage can not be property, but aside from this we have the thirteenth amendment to the constitution, prohibiting slavery and involuntary servitude.

Labor power can not be property, because it can not be separated from the laborer. It is personal. It grows with health, diminishes in sickness, and ceases at death. It is an attribute of life.

The ruling of the court makes of the laborer a serf, of patronage an evidence of servitude by assuming that one may have a property right in the labor or patronage of another.

DEFINITION OF BUSINESS.

That which occupies the time, attention and labor of men for the purpose of livelihood or profit; that which occupies the time, attention and labor of men for the purpose of profit and improvement. (American and English Encyclopedia of Law.)

That which busies or that which occupies the time, attention or labor of one, as his principal concern, whether for a longer or shorter time. (Webster's Dictionary.)

DEFINITION OF LABOR.

Physical or mental effort, particularly for some useful or desired end. Exertion of the powers for some end other than recreation or sport. (Century Dictionary.)

It will be seen from these definitions that, while there is a fundamental difference between property and business, there is none at all between business and labor, so that if business be property so is labor, and if the earning power of business can be protected by equity power through injunction so can the earning power of labor—in other words, the laborer may obtain an injunction against a reduction of his wages, or against a discharge, which would stop the wages entirely.

If this new definition of property, by including therein business and labor, be accepted, then the judge sitting in equity becomes the irresponsible master of all men who do business or who labor.

LIBERTY IN DANGER.

We contend that equity power and jurisdiction—discretionary government by the judiciary—for well-defined purposes and within specific limitations granted to the courts by the constitution has been so extended that it is invading the field of government by law and endangering constitutional liberty—that is, the personal liberty of the individual citizen.

As government by equity (personal government) advances republican (government by law) recedes.

We have escaped from despotic government by the king. We realized that after all he was but a man. Are we going to permit the growing up of a despotic government by the judges? Are not they also men?

The despotism of one can in this sense be no better than the despotism of another. If we are to preserve "government of the people, by the people, and for the people," any usurpation by the judiciary must be as sternly resisted as usurpation by the executive.

What labor is now seeking is the assistance of all liberty-loving men in restoring the common-law definition of property and in restricting the jurisdiction of the equity courts in that connection to what it was at the time of the adoption of the constitution.

Courts Have Usurped Their Power

By Hon. Walter Clark, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina.

The jurisdiction conferred on the supreme court by the constitution, Art. III, is small, and then follows: "In all the other cases before mentioned, the supreme court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions and under such regulations as congress shall make."

The inferior courts are "ordained and established" by congress, which must prescribe the limits of their jurisdiction. The claim of supremacy by the judiciary over its creator is therefore not authorized. It is asserted that it is 'necessary to the independence" of the judiciary. In fact, it is the assumption by it of supreme, irresponsible and autocratic power.

Of course every department of the government takes an oath to support the constitution. But the supreme power to review whether they do or not is reserved to the people, and is nowhere given to the judiciary.

If congress disobeys the constitution the members of both the house and senate are chosen by the people and can be reviewed at the next election.

If the president disobeys the constitution, he is chosen by the people, and his acts can be reviewed at the next election.

If the judiciary do an unconstitutional act they are not chosen by the people, and cannot be reviewed at the next election. That they have acted unconstitutionally has been held by themselves in reversing the legal tender decision; in the income tax decision; in the ten-hour case (Lochner case), virtually reversed in the Adamson law, and in other cases.

In the income tax case the last decision was wrong, and it required eighteen years to get the evil corrected by constitutional amendment, and in the meantime that one vote by one judge transferred 3,000 millions of dollars taxation from the predatory rich, and placed it upon the producing classes of the country.

Is it not worth while to prevent other abuses by an irresponsible court, a bare majority of whom may again, as so often in the past, mistake their own economic views for the constitution?

The first usurpation, in "Marbury vs. Madison," during the incumbency of Chief Justice Marshall, was made by an obiter dictum in the Marbury case, as follows:

In laying the foundation of the constitution there began the trouble between the free and slavery system of labor, which was a continuous struggle down to 1861. It was compromised by the constitution giving three-fifths of a vote to slave owners as representatives of their slaves. It was recognized that by the increase of the white vote at the north, as well as by immigration, the south would soon lose control of the house and that it would ultimately lose the control of the senate, though for a long time the parity was kept up by always admitting a slave state and a free state at the same time. On the admission of Missouri in 1820 we came near a dissolution of the Union, the Mexican war was largely caused by an effort to maintain the political equality of the slave state in the senate.

For a long time the south held the presidency by nominating a "northern man with southern principles," but when Lincoln was elected it was seen that that could not be relied on.

The Marbury vs. Madison decision was simply "throwing an anchor to windward" by giving to the supreme court power to invalidate any action of congress, though approved by the president, which would jeopardize slavery, and which would thus make the court a third line of defense that would last the lifetime of the judges. This was shattered by the hostile reception given the Dred Scott case, and the results of the Civil war. The contest for slavery made the south "a section apart," and the waves have not yet entirely subsided. They have a proverb in wind-swept Spain, a land of windmills, "Though the mills are down, the winds are blowing there still."

Marbury vs. Madison having been thrown up as a bulwark for the slavery trust, when the fourteenth amendment was passed with a provision intended for the protection of the emancipated negro (which it did not affect), the interests caused by the war through the new appointees from time to time on the supreme bench secured for themselves the construction by the court of newer and deadlier theory than Marbury vs. Madison, which was outworn. As to the reconstruction acts, congress made the court stand off. But as the court is appointive, and for life, the people have no hand in choosing them, and no power to review them, and if their assumption of the supreme and ultimate power of review of the action of congress shall continue to be substituted for that of the people, then aggregated wealth, following the example of the slavery dealers down to 1861, have the irreviewable power to control the government and set at naught the will of the people on all public quesions.

When the Marbury vs. Madison decision was rendered it was at once denounced by President Jefferson as an usurpation unwarranted in the constitution, and when it was repeated 54 years later in the Dred Scott case it was as vigorously denounced by Abraham Lincoln, and these men were, respectively, the very chiefest of the apostles of the two great parties now before the country.

WHY DOES CHINA CRY?

Were there no labor movement, what would be the condition of the people of the country today? The answer to this question will be found in China—famine, pestilence, misery, signs on every street corner of the land, calling for aid to the starving and the homeless of China, advertise the benefit to our people of our own labor movement. Organized labor is the only force that stands between the people and the conditions which prevail in China. The union enhances the standard of life. A true American will welcome and support any institution which raises the standard of living.

THE GREAT QUESTION.

Trade unions have educated the world to a consciousness of the dignity of labor until today the schools and colleges are talking labor. Labor is the great question of the times. The labor movement has rescued labor from obloquy and made of the toiler a man with the courage to demand the rights of men.—Samuel Gompers.

TRADE UNION INCORPORATION IS A SNARE

"We will not submit to this snare f incorporating trade unions for abor's despoilment."

So declares the executive council f the American Federation of Labor.

"We frequently hear the proposiion urged for the incorporation of rade unions, the evident purpose f many advocates being honorable nd sympathetic, notwithstanding ow unwise and injurious the reults would unquestionably be to abor. Others, again, who advocate nd insist upon the incorporation of he trade unions know full well the urpose they have in view and the chemes they could then hatch to grass organized labor still more vith suits at law, regardless of the limsiness of the cause, or the preext for civil suits.

"They would not only divert our ttention from the effort at ecoomic improvement to a defense gainst every species of civil suits rought by our opponents against ny officer of organized labor, but hey would make every effort under the forms of law" to mulct ur unions in damages for supposed njurious results from trade union ction. We would be forced to deend suits without regard to the nerit or lack of merit in the comlaint in order to prevent our organization from being mulcted in amages; and this, after all, is the ltimate desire and purpose of our pponents for trade union incorportion, for necessity would require he expenditure of large sums of noney in attorneys' fees and other osts and expenditures incident to itigation.

"The most important point aparently urged by our opponents in dvocacy of trade union incorporaon is, as they claim, that employrs have tangible property and in ny violation of terms of agreement or breach of contract they are responsible, and in cases of breach of contract on their part they can be held in damages and payment enforced, while labor organizations not having tangible property, they say, are unincorporated bodies, and violation of contract by them would not afford the same facilities for bringing them within the jurisdiction of the courts in a suit for damages for breaches of contract, and that therefore the unions should be incorporated to bring about equality of responsibility. The chief merit in this claim is that it has no foundation in fact or in practice.

"Of course, employers entering into contractual relations with business men and committing a breach thereof are liable to damages. This also applies where employers enter into contractual relations with workmen for labor for a specific period; but in spite of the innumerable violations of contract entered into by employers and organized workmen, we challenge the advocates of compulsory incorporation to point out a single instance in which employers have been, or how they could have been, mulcted in damages for violation of the terms of an agreement with labor in its collective capacity. This is referred to, not as justification of or an encouragement to an organized labor breach of contract. On the contrary, it is the constant aim of our movement to instil into the minds of all our fellow workers to bring about working agreements with employers, and to a faithful adherence to the spirit and letter of their terms, but this is cited to prove the fallacy of the pretense urged by our opponents for trade union incorporation. We will not submit to this new snare for labor's despoilment."

Co-Operation Urged by A. F. of L.

There is widespread interest mong the organized workers in the uccess of the co-operative movenent in establishing retail stores or the sale of merchandise on coperative principles. In view of this nterest, the following report of a pecial committee on co-operation, which was adopted by the 1917 conention of the American Federation f Labor, may prove instructive:

"The co-operative movement is the rganization that is designed to proect the workers in their relations vith the merchants and the business nen in the same sense that the trade nion movement protects them from e employers. The two movements re twin remedies.

"If we had a thorough co-operave movement throughout America, omprising in its membership the orkers thereof, there would be less eed for official governmental food ontrol agencies.

"And without that kind of organation established permanently to eal with this question, there is no uarantee to the workers that the ost of living for them and their amilies will be permanently placed n the basis that should obtain, and is for that reason that we believe at the American Federation of abor should assist in establishing, uilding up and strengthening in very way possible a legitimate organization of bona fide workers in ur country and Canada as part of e great world's co-operative moveent; so that after the trade union ovement has secured for the works the wages that they are entitled for the labor they perform, they ay be assured in spending those ages that they will get for them eir full value.

"We hold that it is just as essenal that a working man should get n dollars' worth of actual value for is wages when he spends them as is that he should get the ten dolrs that he is entitled to for the bor that he performs.

"We would also recommend that e United States government be reuested by the executive council of e American Federation of Labor take up the question of the coperative movement in connection ith its activities relative to the gh cost of living, with a view to ilizing as far as possible, the existing co-operative organizations for immediate purposes, and encouraging the creation of additional co-operative organizations where they are needed and conditions are suitable.

"There has been assembled in the offices of the American Federation of Labor a considerable body of literature on the subject, among which are the standard works, reports from various countries, and lists of recent publications.

"Your committee has excluded from its consideration all forms of associated work which do not fall within the strict limits of the Rochdale co-operative system.

"The simple principles of this system are:

"1. A democratic organization.

"2. One vote for each member with equality in share ownership.

"3. Cash returns quarterly to members of the difference between the total amount they have paid for their purchases and the lesser total of these purchases to the co-operative society; including among the costs depreciation and a reasonable amount for a reserve fund to meet emergencies and extend the business.

"4. Rejection of the principle of profits.

"5. Current interest on loan capital.

"6. Sales where possible preferably to members only.

"7. Distributive co-operation to precede productive.

"8. A sufficient number of retail stores to be established to assure a market before a wholesale department is created.

"9. Observance of methods recommended by the international co-operative alliance.

"All the members of your committee have made the subject of co-operation the study of many years, have had personal experience in conducting or investigating co-operative societies and are acquainted with co-operation as a great world movement. In their judgment the co-operative principle and the trade union principle give rise to no hurtful interference with each other, but are mutually helpful, and each is in a degree beyond measure a factor in the economic, social, political, and educational development of the wage working masses."

LABOR IS STRONGER THAN EVER.

Mass meetings of labor are being eld everywhere. The labor press nd unions breathe deeply the spirit fraternity which has been awakned in the heart of organized bor. Workers understand the moves of the opponents of the labor ovement. Understanding, they re firm in their devotion to its rinciples. They know what the estruction of the labor movement ould mean to them and their famies. It is idle, therefore, for any t of employers or hired attorneys endeavor to deprive organized bor of such elementary rights as oral suasion, the giving and reeiving of information, the use of e public highways, and, in short, ist as idle as it is to seek to bolish the right of labor to choose mployers and associates and to ake union shop contracts.

So long as the country remains ee these rights will be exercised one way or another. Injunctions ill not avail; absurd bulls and icta will not avail. They will be njoyed practically in spite of fulination and legal sophistry. Comon sense will prevail in the end; eason and consistency will reassert hemselves in the courts. If not, here will be constitutional reform to curb the judicial legislators and confine them to their proper functions.

No doubt there was a time when the short-sighted, bigoted employers thought unionism could and would be crushed by injunctions, damage suits, denunciation, and similar weapons.

They ought to know better now.

What have they accomplished? Labor is stronger than ever.

The unions have not dissolved; the policy of labor has not changed.

Mistakes have been made, and they will be avoided.

But all the essential features of the unionist movement have remained unimpaired.

The assaults have failed; they have been repulsed.

Would it not be wiser and more profitable for employers to abandon futile methods and try the policy of fair play, honest dealing, and friendly relations with their organized employes and the latter's duly elected representatives?

Sooner or later this course will have to be adopted by them, and our effort is to bring it into full and general operation at the earliest possible time and thus avoid many unnecessary controversies and contests.

Organize A Union.

All wage-workers should organize nions. Men and women workers eed organization. Their progress limited only by those who hold loof. All industries are carried on y organized effort. There is an emloyers' association for everything hat is produced. Employers underand the power of organized effort, e value to them and to their inrests of unity of purpose. They on't consult the convenience of the orkers when they organize. They o it, and they carry out their plans n wages and hours of labor affectg labor's interests without giving single thought to the comforts of eir workers, whether they be men women.

Wake up those who hold back. sk yourself and ask your fellow orkers what chance there is in life or the individual workers pitted gainst the organized employers. hat chance have individual workrs to obtain a reduction of their ours of labor? What resources ave they to resist reductions in ages?

More than five million organized orkers prove that unions can be stablished by all wage-workers. ut the first steps have got to be aken by those who labor.

The American Federation of Labor ready to receive all men and omen who toil. It is their organization, formed for helping them, for making life easier for them, for defending them in their economic rights. Write today to the Secretary of the American Federation of Labor and directions for forming a union will be sent. The experience of forty years of organized effort is subject to your order. Organize a union and become a part of the great labor movement of the world.

STRANGE JUSTICE!

Some employers are strong in their defense of the non-union worker in taking all the advantages which the union has given to a craft without assuming any of the risk or cost of belonging to a union. The union men fix the craft's wages and hours of labor. The non-union man accepts these conditions and declines to hold up his end. The employers really don't think this is a square deal. Most of them would fight if they were accused of doing a similar act with their own associations. It is a workman's duty to join the union of his craft. It is a public duty to support the unions in their just contentions.

The trade union ideal of equality is equality of rights and opportunities for employers and workers alike, equality under the law, equality in daily practice, equality of rights, opportunities and responsibilities at all times and under all circumstances.

"TRADE UNIONS ARE OPEN"--Gompers

The phrase "closed shop" is of recent use. It was coined, and is employed on all occasions, by the enemies of trade unionism for a purpose. That purpose is to divert attention from the defensive action of union members, in preserving their union, to what is no more than an incidental consequence of that action.

The union creates certain desirable labor conditions. The non-unionists try to destroy them. By not competing with one another for the employment, the unionists make their advantage. By competing, the non-unionists would leave the dictation of terms wholly to employers. That is the merest A B C of this feature in the case of labor. And then the employers, when the union has gained something through its advantage, come forward with a demand for "the open shop" and make an appeal to the public in the name of liberty. To all the inhabitants of Easy Street—who complacently regard themselves as "the general public"—this slogan of the employing class sounds justified as "truly American."

Now, this situation has been analyzed times innumerable in these columns, by writers for the labor and social reform press. Every point in it has been brought up, weighed and given its place. No intelligent observer of today but has had full opportunity to see clearly all the factors bearing on the question. Every citizen has been enabled to take his stand thereon.

This being true, the trade unionists, having made plain their view and believing it to be the true one, do not intend to permit their opponents to ignore that view. This remark applies equally to opponents who fight in the open or opponents who seek by subtle means, including profession of reasonableness or even friendliness, to weaken the position of trade unionism. It will not do for such professed "judicial" persons merely to make a passing note of the fact that the unionists declare that there is no "closed shop," that "the union shop" is an "open shop," and then go on talking and acting as if the unionists were hypocritical, or at least employing the methods of counsel under fee whose morals permit any argument for any side which pays the fee.

Trade unions are open. Nearly all are wide open to any man or woman qualified at the occupation organized, at an entrance fee barely sufficient to equalize the payments of the union's cash benevolent benefits and current costs of administration. Hardly any union ever asks a non-unionist to pay for the slightest percentage of the damage he has done as a disruptionist. It is literally and positively true, without evasion or equivocation, that trade unions, and consequently union shops, are open for all wage-workers whom any employer would possibly contemplate as employes to be kept regularly and permanently in his hire.

We beg, then, that the press, the public spirited men and women who declare themselves in favor of labor in times of disputes, and any other class of persons who deem themselves interested, will accept the fact that what trade unionists call for is the UNION shop. When confronted by persons who persist in speaking, in private and public, of the "closed shop," the trade unionists recognize by that sign that they are dealing with an enemy, employing the verbal ammunition of an enemy, distorting facts as an enemy, and without having the manliness and candor of a courageous enemy.

AIMS, PURPOSES AND DECLARATIONS OF A. F. OF L.

From the inception of the American Federation of Labor it has taken the stand that while unions for the various trades and callings must each and all be left entirely free to govern themselves within their own borders, yet between the members of all these unions there should be a bond as great as that between the members of the same organization, and it is the aim of the A. F. of L. to strengthen that bond by organization, and by education and inculcation of the feeling and consciousness of unity of interest and solidarity to place the labor movement upon a higher and more effective plane. It seeks to organize the yet unorganized workers, the skilled and the unskilled, the permanently located and the migratory.

The A. F. of L. holds that whatever a man may be so long as he works honestly and seeks to wrong no other man or to advantage himself at the cost to another, and seeks to maintain this standard regardless of how any toilers may happen to be employed, he is a man. Though the A. F. of L. does not advocate strikes, yet it encourages them when all other means to obtain justice for the toilers have failed. It urges that the workers, when struck, strike back as best they can. Though strikes do not always win, even those alleged to be lost at least induce employers to forbear in the future and teach them a lesson they do not readily forget; namely, that labor is the most important factor in production and entitled to a voice in the question of wages, hours, and conditions under which work shall be performed.

The A. F. of L. stands as the most potent factor in all our country in defense of the right of free assemblage, free speech, and free press. It endeavors to unite all classes of wage earners under one head through their several organizations with the purpose in view that class, race, creed, political, and trade prejudices may be abolished and that moral and financial support may be given to all. It aims to allow in the light of experience the utmost liberty of each organization in the conduct of its own affairs consistent with the generally understood practice of the identity and solidarity of labor.

The A. F. of L. establishes intercommunication; creates agitation and educates not only the workers but the educators. It is in direct correspondence and conference with the representative workers and thinkers the world over. It urges the interests of the toilers in Congress, state legislatures, municipal legislative bodies, administrative offices, and judicial agencies. It initiates measures in the name of labor and liberty, and decides upon acts according as they benefit or are calculated to injure the masses of the people. It has secured vast relief from burdensome laws. It seeks and will achieve freedom and justice for all.

It encourages and has largely achieved the interchange of ideas, ideals, and methods. It seeks to cultivate mutual interest, and to secure united action to announce to the world the wrongs and burdens which the toilers have too long endured. It voices the aims and hopes of the toiling masses. It asks and demands the co-operation of the organizations, co-operation and affiliation of all wageworkers who believe in the principle of unity, and that there is something better in life than long hours, low wages, unemployment and all that these imply.

The A. F. of L. endorses as basic these economic principles: That no trade or calling can long maintain wages, hours, and conditions above the common level; that to maintain high wages all trades and callings must be organized; that lack of organization among the unskilled vitally affects the skilled, whether organized or unorganized; that generally organization of skilled and unskilled workers can be accomplished only by united action—federation; that the history of the labor movement demonstrates the necessity for the union of individuals, and that logic implies a union of unions—federation.

The A. F. of L. urges the concentration of efforts to organize all the workers within the ranks of the organized, fair and open contest for the different views which may be entertained upon measures proposed to move the grand army of labor onward and forward. In no organization on earth is there such toleration, so great a scope, and so free a forum as within the ranks of the A. F. of L., and nowhere is there such a fair opportunity afforded for the advocacy of a new or brighter thought. The A. F. of L. affirms as one of the cardinal principles of the trade union movement that the working people must organize, unite, and federate, irrespective of creed, color, sex, nationality or politics. In the language of the late William E. Gladstone, "trade unions are the bulwarks of moderate democracy."

The A. F. of L. stands unalterably for the abolition of all forms of involuntary servitude and devotes its time and efforts to making every day a day of a better life.

The trade union movement fosters education and uproots ignorance; shortens hours and lengthens life; raises wages and lowers usury; increases independence and decreases dependence; develops manhood and balks tyranny; discourages selfishness and establishes fraternity; induces liberality and reduces prejudice; creates rights and abolishes wrongs; lightens toil and brightens man; makes the workers' workshop safe and brighter; cheers the home and fireside, and makes the world better.

Conscientious Scruple.

The would-be union busters in the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce say that no man should be "forced" to join a union if his conscientious scruples are against such action.

Let us analyze these more or less mysterious scruples.

The non-union man, by accepting lower wages and longer hours, sets up the standard of living for the entire craft. He may degrade the men who required years of hard work to bring themselves up to their present social and economic level. It is because of this fact that workingmen object so strongly to Chinese and Japanese immigration. But what about the non-union man who demands and receives everything that the unionists ask for?

True, it may be said, he is not degrading the workingmen. That may be so, for the present. The time may come, however, when the workingmen of his craft may have a grievance which will require a united protest against the unfair treatment of the employer. Outside of the organization, that non-union man may become a menace to the interests of all his fellow workers even though he is receiving union wages and working union hours. He may be an., in his disorganized state, usually is used against his fellow workers. Yet, he is all the time receiving the benefit of the years of sacrifice and hardship of his fellow-workmen without assuming any of the obligations of the union. He is quite willing to have others fight his battles, without subjecting himself to the perils of the warfare, and in nearly all cases on record his "conscientious scruples" against joining the labor union consist simply in an unwillingness to assume these obligations.—Seamen's Journal.

Organized Labor.

Organized labor is raising the standards of workingmen by compelling them to think rapidly and to speak clearly. The trade union movement has developed a company of speakers who are abundantly able to present the cause of the toilers. This is constantly being demonstrated at the national meetings of labor bodies, where statesmanship of the highest order is demanded and where some of the addresses would easily rank with the best that are delivered in the conferences and conventions of other national bodies.

Organized labor is raising the standards of workingmen by fighting the battles of all the people. It is carrying with it even the lowest and most degraded. Every victory won for the men and women at the top means a higher level for those lower down. While the trade unionist may for a time belong to the aristocracy of labor, he soon makes of that aristocracy a democracy for all.—Ex.

SOLIDARITY.

Solidarity means unity of the human family. It must be based upon a realization of the ideals of equality, liberty and fraternity. It cannot be achieved by following the promptings of envy, ambition and disregard of the moral conscience. Tyranny, spoliation, intolerance and hatred do not lead humanity toward the goal of brotherly love and social justice. All those who are willing to serve in the cause of humanity should not dwell upon their wrongs or seek to acquire only new rights—they must learn to insist upon the performance of the duties which accompany every right or privilege. It is the privilege of any mind to excel others—go as far as it may—but such excellence does not give a right to dominate, only to be of greater service to mankind and to receive in return the appreciation and love of their fellows. Solidarity demands from its devotees deeds of forbearance and sacrifice, not the of forbearance of revolution and force.

Will Rail Officials Cut Salaries? No Mention Made of Vast Sums

The demand by railroad officials that employes' wages be reduced has resulted in the publication of vast sums set aside by these corporations for salaries of executives and lawyers.

Under the Cummins-Esch law the interstate commerce commission must sanction rates that will permit of a profit of not less than 5½ per cent, regardless of how extravagant railroad managements are. The railroads have unlimited power to raise salaries of officials, and there is no effort to keep these figures within reasonable bounds.

Agitation among congressmen may result in an investigation of salary expenditures. In a list issued by the interstate commerce commission it is shown that in 1917 nearly 3,000 officials and lawyers were paid annual sums ranging from $5,000 upward. It is fair to assume that these figures have been increased since 1917.

The list includes 43 railroad executives and legal firms that received in 1917 compensation ranging from $40,000 to $120,732. Next on the list are 57 officials and legal advisers who received between $30,000 and $40,000, and 105 officials and legal advisers who received between $20,000 and $30,000. These figures do not include their income from stocks, bonds, and other holdings.

J. M. Dickinson, receiver for the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific, received in 1917 a compensation of $120,732.90.

Other officials and legal advisers, receiving salaries in excess of $40,000, were:

A. S. Lovett, chairman executive committee, Union Pacific		$104,104
L. F. Loree, president Delaware and Hudson	$50,800	
Chairman executive committee, Kansas City Southern	30,825	
Chairman executive committee Wheeling and Lake Erie	10,320	
		91,945
J. Kruttschnitt, chairman executive committee, Southern Pacific		88,860
A. H. Smith, president New York Central System		78,360
H. E. Byram, president Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul System	60,000	
And as vice president Chicago, Burlington and Quincy	22,500	
F. D. Underwood, president and chief engineer of construction, Erie		77,050
Walker D. Hines, chairman Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe		77,210

Samuel Rea, president Pennsylvania System	75,480
Edward P. Ripley, president Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe	75,400
William H. Truesdale, president Delaware, Lackawanna and Western	75,300
Daniel Willard, president Baltimore and Ohio, Central Railroad of New Jersey, Washington Terminal	75,480
Hale Holden, president and director, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, Colorado and Southern	65,000
Chadbourn Shores, counsel for Denver and Rio Grande	63,000
William Sproule, vice president Southern Pacific Associated Oils	62,036
John S. Runnells, president Pullman Co.	60,500
Martin Hughitt, Sr., chairman board of directors Chicago and Northwestern, Minneapolis and Omaha, Chicago and St. Paul	60,480
C. H. Markham, president Illinois Central	60,555
Thomas M. Schumaker, president El Paso and Southwestern	60,150
L. E. Johnson, president Norfolk and Western	60,090
Robert B. Scofield, assistant secretary and treasurer Delaware, Lackawanna and Western	60,010
M. L. Bell, general counsel Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific	59,486
Henry McAllister, jr., general counsel Denver and Rio Grande, Rio Grande Southern, Utah Fuel	55,000
Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, general counsel Denver and Rio Grande	55,000
E. Pennington, president Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault St. Marie	52,723
E. B. Thomas, chairman of board Lehigh Valley	50,880
Fairfax Harrison, president Southern Lines	50,500
Richard H. Aishton, president Chicago and Northwestern	50,240
W. H. Beien, president and general manager Central R. R. of New York	50,210
Ed. F. Kearney, president Wabash	50,120
J. M. Hanaford, president Northern Pacific	50,000
J. M. Hanaford, president Northwest Implement Company	5,000
Louis W. Hill, chairman Great Northern	50,000
William T. Noonan, president of Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh	50,000
S. Davies Warfield, chairman of board, Seaboard Air Line	50,000
Pierce Butler, counsel of Federal valuation, Missouri Pacific	45,000
E. E. Loomis, president of Lehigh Valley	44,287
R. F. Bush, president of Missouri Pacific	44,170
H. U. Mudge, president of Denver and Rio Grande	42,232
Charles E. Schaff, receiver and president	43,000
James J. Turner, senior vice-president of Pennsylvania	40,620
W. W. Atterbury, vice-president in charge of operations, Pennsylvania	40,000
Edward J. Pearson, president of New York, New Haven and Hartford	40,000

Who Speaks for the Unorganized?

Unorganized workers have no voice in fixing the terms of their labor. They have two alternatives: Accept the terms laid down by organized employers or get along as best they can.

In our time, we are not called upon to deal with individual employers. Industry is so developed and wealth so concentrated that we are confronted in nearly every avenue of employment with the associated interests of the employers.

Workmen as individuals in our day are as much at the mercy of the employers as is the rudderless ship at the mercy of the waves.

The labor movement, however, confronts each new economic situation as it arises, ready to give succor to the weak and defenseless, and ready to speak for them with the voice of organized power.

Labor is defenseless, is weak, has no voice only so long as it chooses to remain in that condition. The labor movement is open to every man and woman who works with hand or brain. It recognizes no aristocracy among the toiling masses. Born of a common interest, it welcomes all on terms of equality. Its strength is limited only by the strength of the men and women who compose it.

All the economic advantages which the unorganized worker enjoys is a mere reflex of the activity of the men and women of the labor movement.

The standards of hours, the rate of pay, the working conditions—all are graduated from the trade agreements prevailing in the organized trades. The man or woman, then, who holds aloof from the union of his or her craft, while accepting the benefits which accrue from that organization, is not only taking something for which no service is rendered, but is checking a movement which can give greater benefit to all in the trade were all engaged in the trade a part of it.

Unorganized workers gain everything and lose nothing by attaching themselves to the trade union movement. By remaining unorganized they retard their own development as freemen and check the progress to a better life of all who labor.

PURPOSES OF UNIONS.

The trade union movement inspires to higher ideals about the rights of working people; it endeavors to impress upon the minds of the workers the necessity of patience, perseverance and hopefulness; it aims to eliminate indifference, apathy and despondency; it encourages a higher standard of living with more home comforts, and a more diversified and useful education for the rising generation.

A Capitalist on Capital

Sir Hugh Bell, the great iron lord, has been telling a Huddersfield audience that capital is "the result of skill and abstinence applied to production," and that "as it arose in this way it seemed difficult to deny to its producer the right to dispose of it at his good pleasure." But does it arise in that way? The typical capitalist of modern industry is an investor. He need know nothing whatever about the industry in which he invests, but having put in his money he can stand by doing nothing and go on drawing money out while his original investment remains intact. Where is the skill? Where the abstinence? His capital is reproduced over and over again as the result of the labor applied to it. Even supposing our investor put every penny he possessed into an enterprise there need be no abstinence on his part. He does not give his money away, and, with his investment as security, could obtain credit should he wish to do so. But in the actual practice of the modern world we know that the investing capitalist has, as a rule, enough with which to make ends meet. He abstains not at all, but lives by levying tribute on the industry of others. It cannot be his capital that produces more capital, for were that the case the original capital would in time be used up, whereas—subject to possible fluctuations in its market value—it remains intact. Interest is produced and capital reproduced by labor. In the earlier days of capitalism, when the capitalist was often also the employer who directed the business, Sir Hugh's statement would have been more true, but in our own day the skill of which Sir Hugh speaks is generally the skill of hired servants; well paid very likely, but not necessarily capitalists. Has it not struck Sir Hugh that a wealthy imbecile, through his legal representatives, may become a great capitalist? — Cotton Factory Times, Manchester, England.

MAKE EVERY MINUTE COUNT.

Organization of labor is more necessary now than at any previous time in the industrial history of our country, not only to attain industrial peace, but also for the progress of those who work with hand or brain.

So long as a nation's energy is armed and in fighting trim, so long is it necessary for her self-respecting, virile, progressive and loyal people to be prepared for any condition which may confront them.

What is true of nations is true of the workers of a nation. The toilers must be united in numbers, in sentiment, in spirit and in principle. They must be prepared to defend their rights and to advance their interests by making every reasonable effort to improve their economic condition by establishing the shorter work day and resisting wage cuts.

The more thoroughly the workers are organized and federated, the better they are prepared to enter into a contest, and the more surely will industrial conflicts be averted. Militant trades unionism is essential to industrial peace.

LET YOUR WANTS BE KNOWN.

People who refuse to make an effort to help themselves have no right to ask others to make the effort for them. Perhaps the organized workers think you are satisfied and they do not want to pry your pockets open with a crow-bar in order to put better wages in them. Perhaps they think you would rather give an extra two hours to the employers every day instead of spending them with your family. Perhaps they think you would rather work under poor conditions instead of good conditions. Join the union, then they will know what you want and will help you get it.

Political democracy is the forerunner of democracy in industry.

"REDUCED LIVING STANDARDS" IS MENACE TO AMERICAN LIFE

The first effects of a depression in business are men and women looking for work, wage reductions, changed working conditions and lowering standards of living. The second effects are unrest among the workers, strikes, injunctions and general social bitterness. The first are economic; the second human.

"Reducing living standards" is more than a phrase of speech treating of inanimate things. It means that men, women and children must abandon normal comforts and change their systems of life to a lower order. The child who is in school must be put at work in the factory; the wife and mother, perhaps, must be taken from the home and drafted into industry. The income of the natural bread winner of the family, the father, is so reduced that it is unable to meet the demands made upon it. The entire family must be thrown into the vortex of industry in order to live. Upon this changed system of life may depend the future of the children. Opportunity for complete education being ended, and with it the development of natural faculties, at a period of life when they are best adapted for development, the child may be thrown into an environment that will change his entire course of life, destroy his ambition and crush his ideals. He becomes a cog in an industrial machine, discontented, without initiative, without resources, moving with the machine, growing up with it, being a part of it. Sometimes, when the wage cut is especially severe, the family is dispersed. The father goes away from the town. The mother turns to whatever kind of work she can do. The sons leave the remnant of home, and the girls disappear. The happy family, its parts disintegrated, is no more. Home life is ended. Home ties are severed. Home influence is dead. The home, the family, has been swept into the wreckage carried along by the flood of loose humanity, abiding on the banks of the turbulent streams of life.

The home is kept intact by the wages of the breadwinner. Wages, translated into human terms, mean food, clothing, shelter, education, pleasure, refinement for humanity. The volume of the worker's wages determines the character of his home and the extent of his enjoyment of human ideals.

The roots of these ideals in the mind of the worker are constant employment and the ownership of a home. From these roots grows the tree of industrial progress and social contentment.

Modern industry has created a code of ethics for its own convenience. These ethics accept the doctrine that when current industry is depressed, wages must fall, regardless of the surplus accumulated in the past. That portion of the surplus which is not distributed in huge dividends is devoted either to extensions of plant or to the purchase of stock in other industries. Rarely is this surplus reserved for the payment of wages in times of depression. When markets are overproduced or under-consumed, industry stops. The mills close. Wages end.

Dividends do not end. They are sustained by the surplus that has been piled up in the years of plenty. These years of plenty mean little to the worker. He is constantly struggling to pay debts contracted when "business is dull." "Dull business" wipes out the small chance he has to gather a personal surplus, and this, at best, can be gathered only by sacrificing normal needs.

Nevertheless, the workers have aided in the piling up of the surplus in industry out of which dividends are paid and extensions made to property, and by all the rules of morality, by all the ethics of Christianity, by all the finer sentiments of humanity, by all concepts of justice, the workers ought to share in that surplus.

The right to obtain a part of that surplus is vested in the stockholder. His interest is represented by the ownership of a stock certificate, a bit of paper, for which money may or may not have been exchanged. He is not required, or even expected to contribute the bending of a finger in productive labor to obtain his share of that surplus. He is not required, or even expected, to know a single operation of the industry through the operation of which the surplus was accumulated. The piece of paper, properly attested, guarantees to him the enjoyment of all his normal comforts out of this surplus of industry, whether or not that industry is in active operation.

The ethics of modern business, in effect, declare that wages must be paid out of the current earnings of industry. Profits may be distributed out of present or past earnings.

The report of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, for 1920, is a concrete example of the distribution of surplus. Net earnings were $61,377,803, against $34,604,417 in 1919. After reserving $20,404,139 for taxes, there remained $40,973,484 for dividends. As a result of these huge earnings the company put $21,836,806 back into the property. Were this company to close tomorrow, the payment of wages would stop. Dividends, however, would continue until the surplus set aside for their payment was exhausted.

Wages represent the applied effort of the workers in producing the commodities of the industry out of which the surplus is created. In all justice, the wages of the workers have an equal claim upon that surplus with the ownership of a stock certificate.

The stability of home life rests upon steady employment and just wages.

The power of a nation rests upon the stability of home life.

Destroy the home, wipe out its influence upon national life, and the nation, like the home, will be swept into the wreckage carried along by the flood of loose humanity abiding on the banks of the turbulent streams of life.

ORGANIZED LABOR MUST LEAD

There can be no question but that to organized labor of America falls the mission of leading in the great movement of guarding the human and civil rights of all the workers—the right to organize, to cease work, to dispose of patronage, to bargain collectively with employers, to speak freely, to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government for redress of grievances.

There are no other means than organized labor by which labor may make known its needs, its aims or its purposes. Without this voice to speak for it, it is beyond the power of man to conceive what the present condition of labor would be, or what the condition of the country would be were the plans of the general run of labor haters put into practice.

This thought in the minds of stout-hearted and far-seeing men and women of the labor movement moves them to greater activity in their endeavor to impress the truth upon the people.

This thought, on the other hand, inspires the weak to look with hope to this labor movement to stay the hand of the strong, which they feel will oppress them unless a force from their own ranks rises up in their defense.

This fear of oppression is historically sound. The strong have always crushed the weak. The strong instituted serfdom, they established slavery, they imposed long hours of labor, they paid low wages, they founded the "pluck-me" company stores, they exploited the labor of children, they robbed the women workers in the factories, they have done everything that could be done to oppress the weak.

Organized labor has come to their rescue and has remained on guard in the life-saving station. It has sponsored nearly every law on the statute books of nearly every state to protect the weak against being preyed upon by the strong.

Organized labor is true to its historical mission. The men and women of labor know that the safety of the toilers for today, and their hopes of liberty for the future, are centered in the organized labor movement of our country. Its highest expectations can be realized, and its great trust can be discharged through the co-operation of all the workers.

The logic of the industrial situation should impel every trade unionist, every representative of organized effort of the workers, to use all the powers with which nature has gifted him or her to unite the forces of labor in a solid phalanx, not only to repel attacks directed against the labor movement, but to march steadily forward to the attainment of the rights to which the workers are entitled.

Only Exploiters Benefit by Immigration

Immigration creates grave industrial problems for the American people, and, if continued, will most likely produce serious financial disturbance everywhere by withdrawing the labor power from Europe, one of its chief resources for the reconstruction of its industrial and agrarian activities, and consequently one of its principle means of paying off its war debts

These figures of the influx to this country of the foreign born have been supplied by the bureau of immigration of the United States department of labor:

From June 30, 1899, to 1919,
the total immigration
from all countries was..14,861,483
From English-speaking
countries:
United Kingdom..1,397,902
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand 22,927
British North America 793,104
—— 2,213,933

Total aliens in customs and language 12,647,550

The world war decreased immigration to a striking degree, as these figures will show:

1913	1,197,892
1914	1,218,480
1915	326,700
1916	298,826
1917	295,403
1918	110,618
1919	141,132

In the four-year period of 1916-1919 the wages for unskilled labor advanced to such an extent that native born workers engaged as common laborers, which fact tends to show the fallacy of the belief often expressed that American workers will not accept employment as common laborers.

Men who understand the labor movement know that the native wage worker will accept employment in every calling which yields him wages which will enable him to maintain the American standard of living.

The American wage earner did this during the war years, and no one was compelled to make sacrifices, or no hardships were endured because of his improved economic condition. These years also forcibly demonstrate the fallacy that our national industries must rest upon low wages, long hours of labor and miserable working conditions.

On the other hand, they show that the maintenance of a high American standard of living conduces to higher labor efficiency, for the volume of commodities produced by the American wage workers during the war was so great as to astound the world.

If it is the purpose of the advocates of immigration by this means to assist the oppressed people of all countries to a better life and to advance the interests of humanity in general, they are being led astray by false sentiment into a morass of social miasma. The greatest benefit that may be conferred on humanity, particularly in Europe at this time, is to aid the struggling people of that continent at home by providing the means to enable them to recover from the effects of the war by giving life to their industries.

The political side of the question should also command the interest of those who believe in republican government. There is no doubt that decreasing the population of European countries by immigration of their working people, and consequently reducing in like degree the forces of democracy, the monarchist system will be rejuvenated, and in some countries possibly returned to power. Europe needs every one of her sons and daughters who love freedom to stand guard at home over the liberty won for them in the war.

Immigration apparently offers an easy road of escape from the economic and political difficulties arising out of the war, but in reality it only aggravates the troubles from which the world now suffers.

No problem of life was ever solved by running away from it, and those well-meaning persons who sentimentally favor unrestricted immigration are not safe leaders, even for the immigrants, for they are leaving a land that needs them to enter a country choked with unemployed workers. Their coming here will serve only to increase the measure of the world's misery.

Resist Wage Cuts.

It is unwise to the degree of folly to curtail the consuming power of the masses as a means of industrial revival or prosperity. No industry, no country, has ever become great, or can become great, founded upon the poverty of its workers. While it is not known to what extent declarations and suggestions may influence employers generally in the effort to dissuade them from pursuing an unwise and uneconomic course in reducing wages, the workers should meet the question with firmness and determination to resist wage reductions and increased hours of labor.

TRUST'S BONUS SCHEME IS USUAL SHELL GAME

Press dispatches from Sharon, Pa., state that the steel trust has extended its bonus system to wage earners.

On profits from $100,000,000 to $150,000,000 a bonus of 2 per cent will be given workers; to $200,000,000, 2 1-4 per cent, and in excess of this amount, 2 1-2 per cent will be distributed.

The scheme appears alluring, but like other gold bricks, it should be investigated.

"Dividing profits" has a brotherly sound, but it means nothing to those who know that the trust retains the power to decide what constitutes profits, and that skilled accountants can pile up the debit side of the ledger to any height desired.

As a rule, wage earners are unacquainted with finance. They know nothing of the intricacies of corporation bookkeeping and the methods employed to conceal extortionate profits.

The steel trust maintains various funds which are charged as costs to the industry. These charges include labor, salaries and lawyers' fees without limit, raw material, interest on bonds, federal and state taxes, depreciation, replacement, etc.

What is left is called profits.

In the trust's depreciation fund vast sums are assigned to replace machinery. Replacement funds are used for the same purpose. The law regulates the amount that can be placed in the depreciation fund, but no limit is placed on net earnings that are shoveled into the replacement fund hole.

Millions of dollars of profits are thus concealed, and the amount may be increased or decreased as suits the purpose of those in control.

Workers who accept the trust's bonus system play with loaded dice, because corporation profits is a matter of figure jugglery in which they have no part and desire none.

Under this system greater production does not mean greater profits (except to the "insiders"), although the worker is led to believe it does.

A morale is necessary for greater production. This spirit can not be developed by bookkeeping systems based on "Now you see it and now you don't."

Statistics can be marshaled in such manner that workers may be silenced, but not convinced. It is folly to believe that co-operation can be developed under these conditions. Right relations between men is not a matter of figures. Harmony is impossible in an atmosphere of doubt.

The workers' longing for social justice will not be stilled by a bonus scheme that is equalled by the shell game and three-card monte man.

It is significant that bonus and similar schemes are always advocated by anti-union employers, whose pretense and deceit are best shown by their so-called "open shop" claims.

ADVOCATES OF FORCE SCORED BY UNIONIST

Sydney, New Souh Wales, Australia, April 9.—"A general strike would leave us a rabble instead of a solid, militant body," declared Arthur Blakely, president of the Australian Workers' union, in his address before the annual convention of that organization. The trade unionist reminded his associates that the advocates of this system were prominent in the railroad strike a few years ago, but when the strike was started the advocates were missing.

"There are some who contend that the general strike is the panacea for all industrial wrongs," he said. "A general strike would leave us a rabble instead of a solid militant body.

"Throughout Australia unemployment is rife and will, no doubt, become accentuated before the crisis is past. At the present time there are over 50,000 unemployed through various causes.

"Then there are those who preach that the only way to emancipation is through blood and fire. If blood is to flow it will be the blood of the workers and not the employers, and, incidentally, not the blood of those who are so apt with their appeals for blood.

"A general strike would be a tragedy for the workers. Those who advocate it, whether intentionally or not, are just as surely selling the workers and betraying unionism as the paid agents of the employers.

"While jealously guarding that which we have won, and not relaxing our efforts in the fight for better wages and conditions for our members, every care will need to be exercised in order that we shall avert disorganization and disaster to the workers. This can only be done through constant vigilance upon the part of those who have been placed in responsible positions by the workers."

TELLS TALES OUT OF SCHOOL.

Washington, April 9.—I. A. Fleming, financial writer in the Evening Star, "tells tales out of school" when he calls on directors of corporations to "direct" the affairs of these institutions. The theory that these directors are supermen is shattered by the writer, who makes this significant statement:

"Directors should direct. They should be compelled to retain a certain amount of stock to hold their positions.

"Any one who thinks that the 'insiders' in a great corporation whose business has slumped, whose inventory has been swollen in an attempt to maintain work in anticipation of an immediate resumption of business, necessitating big bank loans, are so conscientious that they will not take advantage of their first knowledge of these affairs to reduce their holdings, is giving weak human nature too much credit.

"Stockholders in a corporation are unquestionably entitled to something more in the way of protection for their investments than that furnished by the annual meeting, always sparsely attended, and the annual reports of the directors and officials who have been advanced to their positions as 'insiders' largely by the proxy vote."

EMPLOYERS REJECT PEACE.

Hartford, Conn., April 9.—Employers in this state lined up solidly against a proposed law that would authorize the appointment of a council consisting of the state labor commissioner and an equal number of representatives of employers and employed to investigate industrial disputes and acquaint the public with their findings. The state federation of labor favored the plan, but the employers declared that "it would give labor another opportunity to create annoyance for the employer and delve into his books and find out things that aren't the public's business."

VIOLATE WOMEN'S LAW.

Kansas City, Mo., April 9.—Restaurant managers, who employ unorganized workers, are violating the 54-hour law of this state. In many places hours have been lengthened to 60 and 70 hours a week; and an average wage of $12 a week has been cut to $7.50 and $8. Trade unionists are aiding the victimized women, and are also calling attention to the value of trade union action, rather than depend on some official of the state to guarantee them living conditions.

SWITCHMEN TO CONVENE.

Toledo, Ohio, April 9.—The second triennial convention of the Switchmen's Union of North America will convene in this city on May 9.

AN INSPIRING NOTE.

Los Angeles, Cal., April 9.—In his report to the annual convention of the California state building trades council, Secretary-Treasurer Tveitmoe struck this inspiring note:

"Organize! Be better organized. Make your union more fraternal. Cut out trade jealousies. Carry on your trade discussions in all friendliness. Walk over and see the non-union men and have an evening's chat with them. If labor needs organization, it is now. Everybody from airmen to banker and wholesaler is organized, and many appear to be banded simply for the death and destruction of labor. The gentlemen—the efficiency experts and speed-burners—are mistaken. They are communist makers, but they do not know it. Some day there is liable to be a grand awakening, if the railroads and all heavy employers of labor are permitted to enslave the people.

"The only hope is that the speed-burners do not last—that they get consumed in their lights. They do not understand how to handle life and they will never learn.

"But the great majority, who are learning and practicing union music, like the harmony better and better. The organized orchestra of the world will play music—union music."

WOULD ANNUL LABOR LAWS.

Albany, N. Y., April 9.—Trade unionists in this state are arranging for a state-wide conference to combat the political agents of reaction in the state legislature who would annul social legislation.

One bill introduced by Senator Knight would revive the payment of wages in company script, and invalidate the eight-hour law in building construction. Another section of the bill permits women to work at "wet grinding." The law now forbids women and males under 18 from operating any polishing or buffing wheel.

Statistics show that many workers are frequently injured and contract tuberculosis at "wet grinding," yet the Knight bill provides that "females more than 21 years of age may be employed in operating such wheels for wet grinding under conditions specified by the industrial board."

WANT GOVERNMENT AID.

Washington, April 9.—While business interests and organizations are loudly proclaiming that "government interference must cease," business men are holding almost daily conferences with representatives of the government to extend their markets to other countries. One writer says: "The co-operation is to be not merely under the auspices of the government but actually under the leadership of government officials."

The situation is amusing to those who look beneath the surface while business men publicly call for "private initiative."

ANNULS MINIMUM WAGE.

Austin, Texas, April 9.—Governor Neff has vetoed a minimum wage law, passed by the legislature. The claim is made that the act is unconstitutional because it exempts a large number of callings and does not apply to cities, towns or villages whose population is less than 4,950.

The act also exempts women and minors employed on piece work or who do not work under the supervision of employers.

The governor says that "those whom it is intended to benefit are taken out of the bill by exceptions."

NO HARD TIMES HERE.

Boston, April 9.—Stockholders of the Hamilton Manufacturing company, textile manufacturers, have voted to double the capitalization of $1,800,000, to distribute the new stock share for share and to declare from the surplus cash dividend sufficient to pay $70 a share. The remaining $30 a share is payable by the shareholders in cash. The company's present surplus is $2,095,000, of which $1,260,000 was appropriated by the dividend declaration.

PARCEL POST POPULAR.

Washington, April 9.—Reports by postmasters of large cities indicate that merchants are using the parcel post system more each year and that many of them are dispensing with their own delivery systems.

ADJUST WAGE RATES.

Oglesby, Ill., April 9.—Contractors have accepted a rate of 67½ cents an hour for hod carriers and laborers.

A NEW ENEMY IN THE FIELD

BY PRESIDENT GOMPERS, IN AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST.

An office styling itself the American Bureau of the International Council of Trade and Industrial unions is sending broadcast to American labor organizations and to American labor papers an appeal for membership in the so-called International Council of Trade and Industrial unions. The correspondence emanating from this so-called "bureau," the address of which is Queens county labor lyceum, Brooklyn, N. Y., is signed by one James Crawford as secretary.

In the correspondence which is being sent to labor organizations a blank resolution is enclosed, the adoption of which is to constitute an approval of the so-called International Council of Trade and Industrial unions and an application for affiliation thereto.

There is nothing in the resolution definitely stating that the organization named therein is the organization created by Lenine with headquarters in Moscow, but that is what it really is. The only expression that American labor can offer in relation to the organization which Lenine is trying to build up for the support of his bolshevik government in Russia is one of opposition and resentment. No American labor organization that believes in the principles of the American Federation of Labor or in the principles of American democracy can give any consideration to the resolutions now being sent broadcast by the agents of Lenine in America. No American labor organization that understands the principles involved will be deceived by the propaganda of bolshevism.

The purpose of these remarks is to make clear what Mr. Crawford's ready-made resolution fails to state and that is, that the so-called International Council of Trade and Industrial unions is an organization created by Lenine for the support and protection of the bolshevik autocracy in Russia and for no other purpose.

Lenine over his own signature has declared that the American labor movement must be destroyed as a condition to the overthrow of the American republic, and money has been abundantly furnished by him in furtherance of that purpose. How much of it has been furnished by him to carry on this work of the so-called International Council of Trade and Industrial unions is not known, but there is no difficulty in reaching a reasonable deduction that funds have been received and utilized by this Brooklyn, N. Y., adjunct to Moscow's soviet head. It is not a mere coincidence that Lenine and Trotsky are in entire accord with and find companionship among the most antagonistic exploiters of labor in the United States, by one means or another to destroy the American Federation of Labor.

PROFITEERS PROTECTED.

Cleveland, April 9.—"Parrot propaganda," says the Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen's Magazine in discussing a screed against railroad employes by B. C. Forbes, editor of Forbes' Magazine.

"It is all the same line of bunk," says Editor McNamee, "that was handed to the public when 'government ownership is a failure!' was the slogan adopted by the 'advertising engineers,' who worked so assiduously in the campaign to put over the financial program of the money kings—and the public was sold. Yes, 'sold' in every implied acceptance of the term.

"Mr. Forbes' outburst is the same kind of dope that was peddled under the 'car shortage' slogan that was followed by the 'coal shortage' slogan—and a billion dollars or so were taken from the pockets of the dear public, for which Mr. Forbes poses as spokesman and defender.

"But in his solicitous concern for the dear public, and in all his unwarranted criticism of the railroad workers Mr. Forbes does not advocate a reduction of freight and passenger rates in favor of the public; he does not give the public any light on the gross mismanagement and manipulation that has piled sky high the transportation expenses, nor does he suggest that the squeezing out of a few billion dollars of water would reduce the guarantee the public has to pay railroads by several hundred million dollars a year."

REVIVE OLD SCHEME.

Chicago, April 9.—"There is nothing new in the 'individual bargaining between employer and employe' system that is being pushed under the misnomer 'American plan,'" says President Perkins of the Cigar Makers' International union.

"Individual bargaining was the method used for centuries, and until the dawn of the day when labor began to organize into trade unions the workers felt its full force and knew its fatal result. It was in full sway when skilled mechanics worked 10, 12 and often 14 hours a day for whatever the employer saw fit to hand his 'individually hired' man. It was in the height of its glory (?) when the worker's home held neither comfort nor convenience of any kind, and when 85 per cent of the workers' children were deprived of an opportunity to obtain even a grammar school education. These miserable conditions, and many others as bad or worse, generally prevailed until labor, through the power of organization, put them forever out of its life.

"These conditions which for so long a time made of the worker no more than a chattel are behind us. Let it be known now and forever that we have tried, individual bargaining and know the dregs the cup contains. We do not propose to drink again of its poisoned contents, be it labeled the 'American plan' or anything else."

UNIONS ASK TO BE HEARD.

Chicago, April 9.—Organized railroad shop employes have asked President Harding to include them in discussions now being held by him on plans to aid the railroads. In a telegram to the president, these workers say:

"Two million railroad workers and their millions of dependents are vitally interested in your efforts to effect a solution of the railroad problem. Obviously no policy or program that is acceptable to them will be productive of the much-desired result of co-operation, and accordingly, therefore, we respectfully urge that we be given a voice in the determination of what is to be done."

The telegram declared that settlement of the controversies over national working agreements and wages constitutes the "first essential to peace and orderly progress in the transportation industry."

URGE REMEDIAL LAWS.

St. Johns, New Brunswick, April 9.—The New Brunswick federation of labor is urging the government to adopt remedial legislation which includes the creation of a department of labor, the adoption of a minimum wage act, abolition of private employment agencies, mothers' pensions, mining act, eight-hour day, factories act amendment, compensation amendments, pensions for old and needy, election and educational acts and the public ownership of all public utilities.

UNIONS AID TEACHERS.

Wilmette, Ill., April 9.—Officials of the American Federation of Teachers report that in the fight of Oregon teachers for a law that would protect them against politicians on school boards, "organized labor was the only group that supported the teachers."

"In spite of this," it is stated, "non-union teachers are refusing to join our ranks. Such is the power of tradition—and of vested interests."

REFUSE TO ARBITRATE.

Sioux City, Iowa, April 9.—Building contractors in this city have refused to arbitrate differences with their employes, as suggested by Mayor Short. These petty autocrats reply that the arbitration plan is a "subterfuge." They want the right to "run their own business," just like Garyism.

PAINTERS MAKE GAINS.

Toronto, Ontario, April 9.—Painters' union No. 151 has reached a wage agreement with the Master Painters' association. The 1920 rate is practically agreed to.

REJECT OLD AGE PENSION.

Springfield, Ill., April 9.—A committee of the Illinois house of representatives has rejected an old-age pension bill.

Reasons Why British Miners Suspended Work

Washington, April 9.—The strike of coal miners in England involves several issues, but the outstanding feature is the attempt of these workers to hold their positions of unified mine control, established by the government, and national wage standards.

As the result of the miners' strike that started in October of last year, a national wages board was set up. The government has controlled the price of coal and its distribution, and its plan to turn the mines back to their owners is opposed by the miners, who insist that plans should first be worked out that will stabilize this industry. The miners are fearful for their gains if unrestricted private control is again established.

The railway workers are linked up with the miners and transport workers in a voluntary pact called the triple alliance, but the railway workers are more than sentimentally interested in the miners' cause as government control of the railroads is to end next August and their general wages board and other gains will be jeopardized, as is the miners.

The miners are committed to the nationalization of mines and this was indorsed in 1919 by the British Trades Union Congress by a vote of 4,478,000 to 77,000. The government suggests that the royalty rights of the mines be acquired and that the managements of these properties be unified.

The nationalization demand seems to be a less important point at this time, but the miners' strongest claim for nationalization is that the great inequalities, because of physical conditions, in the mining industry gives low-cost mines the advantage over high-cost mines.

The miners insist that every ounce of coal possible is necessary for the economic life of England and that mine production should be on the basis of low-cost mines aiding those of higher cost, and that this is only possible by nationalization.

The so-called Sankey commission, appointed by the government, reported in 1919 in favor of nationalization. The government rejected this recommendation and advanced the plan of securing mine royalty rights. The miners charge that the government agreed to accept the commission's findings.

At the present time the usual claim of inefficiency is made by the coal owners against the miners, and the latter reply that the coal owners, with the consent of the government, raised the price of export coal to continental Europe to a disgracefully high price in order to reimburse the national treasury. This injured England's export trade, and the home consumer is now called upon to maintain profits and the miner is asked to lower working conditions.

LUXURIES COST MORE THAN ALL EDUCATION

Washington, April 9.—When a penny is spent for education, dollars are expended on luxuries, according to P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education, who dispels the fiction that this country's educational system is costly.

"Despite the low salaries of teachers, and the meager and inadequate equipment of schools," says this educator, "many people believe the support of the public schools, elementary, secondary and higher, to be our chief burden. The truth is public education is not a burden. Its cost is almost negligible when compared with other expenditures."

It is shown that in 1918, the last year for which complete reports have been compiled, this country spent $919,729,258 for elementary and secondary public education, for normal schools for the training of teachers and for higher education in colleges, universities and professional schools, whether supported by public taxation or privately endowed.

Against this expenditure of less than $1,000,000,000 in 1918 for education, Commissioner Claxton showed that according to 1920 reports the people spent for luxuries in that year $22,700,000,000, or more than 22 times as much as they spent for education only two years before, and $6,000,000,000, or 30 per cent more than the United States expended for education in its entire history.

The amount paid for chewing gum was two and one-half times the total expenditures for normal schools, and almost exactly the same as all state and city appropriations for higher education.

The $200,000,000 paid for furs is more than twice the total cost of all higher education, and the $350,000,000 paid for soft drinks is more than two and one-half times as much. It is more than the total value of college and university buildings, including dormitories, in 1918.

The cost of toilet soaps—$400,000,000—in 1920, and the salaries of elementary and secondary teachers in 1918, are almost exactly the same.

URGE SMALL CLAIM COURT.

Trenton, N. J., April 9.—The establishment of a small claim court is the purpose of a bill introduced in the state senate. It now costs $12 to $15 in court charges to settle the smallest civil claim, but under the proposed system the expense would be only $1 to begin an action. No lawyer would be required, the plaintiff simply making his statement to a clerk of the court. It is stated that in the city of Newark alone more than $25,000 would be saved annually by the creation of this court, which would eliminate lawyers and fees.

URGE AMNESTY.

Washington, April 9.—Amnesty for political offenses was urged by a delegation of trade unionists and other citizens, headed by President Gompers, who called on President Harding. The chief executive was presented with resolutions on this subject adopted by the last convention of the A. F. of L. Members of the delegation are hopeful that the release of war offenders who would not be charged with a crime for the same offense in peace times would soon be affected.

CHECK RATE BOOST.

Washington, April 9.—The interstate commerce commission has checked the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad in its attempt to increase loading charges for live stock.

REJECT WAGE CUT.

Portland, Ore., April 9.—The building trades council has notified contractors that it will not accept a proposed wage reduction of 12½ per cent. The contract between the parties does not expire until May 1.

MANY LOGS IN STOCK.

Iron Mountain, Mich., April 9.—More than 5,000,000 feet of logs are now in stock at the dumping grounds of one company and 5,000,000 feet are expected shortly.

FEDERAL LAW SPURNED BY RAILROAD MANAGER

Birmingham, Ala., April 9.—The high regard for law, which big business professes, is shown in its true colors in the case of the Atlanta, Birmingham & Atlantic railroad, whose employes are now on strike against a wage reduction in defiance of the Cummins-Esch law. This law was enacted last year on the urgent request of big business and its retainers, who insisted that machinery be created that would make railroad strikes improbable.

The first to break this law is the railroads, and the retainers of big business are silent. The most glaring defiance of law is shown by the management of the A., B. & A. The road reduced wages without conferring with employes or referring the matter to the railway labor board. The board ordered that the law be complied with. The president of the road was then appointed receiver of the road by Federal Judge Sibley, and the cut was made effective, regardless of the Cummins-Esch law.

Val Fitzpatrick, representing the striking employes, says that the application for a receiver was made by the Birmingham Trust and Savings company, which held a note against the railroad, but the note was not due at the time. The unionist states that President Bugg of the railroad testified that he induced the bank to start proceedings, and that he then resigned as president of the road to qualify for the office of receiver, to which Judge Sibley appointed him. The receiver then ignored the Cummins-Esch law and arbitrarily cut wages.

"It is practically conceded," says Val Fitzpatrick, "that the whole plan of the bank and the officials of the railroad was to accomplish what the railroad has been unable to accomplish by legal methods."

POLICE AID WAGE CUTS.

San Juan, Porto Rico, April 9.—Island police are adopting their usual bulldozing methods against agricultural workers who are resisting wage cuts by the sugar corporations. Many thousands of these workers are compelled to face the brutality and illegal interference of police.

More than 15,000 tobacco workers have resisted wage reductions for three months and have convinced employers of the futility of this move. The factories are being opened with former rates prevailing. Other strikes of minor importance are being waged against wage cuts.

LESS MINE FATALITIES.

Washington, April 9.—That fewer men lost their lives in metal-mine accidents in this country during 1919 than in any previous year for which statistics of accidents have been compiled is shown in a report just issued by the United States bureau of mines. The number of men killed was 468 as compared with 646 killed in 1918. The number of men injured was 31,506, as compared with 42,915 injured in 1918.

COOPERS SETTLE STRIKE.

Houston, Texas, April 9.—Coopers' union No. 90 has settled its strike against the Texas Barrel company. President Hughes of the Coopers' International union assisted. The union shop is agreed to and the 44-hour week installed.

RATES UP; DIVIDENDS, TOO.

New York, April 9.—Telephone rates have been advanced 28 per cent, and the American Telephone and Telegraph company immediately declared increased dividends from 8 per cent to 9 per cent.

RENEW OLD RATES.

Rochester, N. Y., April 9.—Breweries in this city have agreed with employes to continue last year's wage scale. The workers involved are brewery workers, coopers, and stationary engineers and firemen.

TEACHERS ORGANIZING.

New York, April 9.—Public school teachers in this city have started an organizing campaign. Members are urged to interest non-union teachers through correspondence and private contact.

SINGLE TAXERS TO MEET.

Washington, April 9.—A national conference of single taxers will be held in this city on May 10 and 11 to discuss and take action on various matters pertaining to that movement. The call says:

"The pseudo-prosperity of the war period is being followed by a real depression. Wages and profits of unprivileged business are being forced down while ground rents and monopoly prices remain high. Legislators are making matters worse by putting more taxes on industry and ignoring the need of higher taxation of land values. The situation is naturally breeding discontent which, unless intelligently directed, must bring about disaster."

"The land question is of interest to labor, as is shown by the reconstruction program of the A. F. of L., in which it is declared that "the private ownership of large tracts of usable land is not conducive to the best interests of a democratic people. Legislation should be enacted placing a graduated tax upon all usable lands above the acreage which is cultivated by the owner.

"This should include provisions through which the tenant farmer or others may purchase land upon the lowest rate of interest and most favorable terms consistent with safety, and so safeguarded by governmental supervision and regulation as to give the fullest and freest opportunity for the development of land-owning agriculturists."

RAILROADS ON TRIAL.

New York, April 9.—In a speech in this city Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, declared that "private ownership and operation of the railroads is still on trial in this country."

With the statement went the warning that, while public opinion is now for such ownership and operation, "public opinion changes quickly."

"I have no doubt," he said, "that it would change and react against private ownership if the public felt that upon the whole it would get more satisfactory service in some other way.

"As I view the matter, private ownership and operation of the railroads is still on trial in this country, but it has everything in its favor and ought to win, and I believe it will win, if the managers, measured by the service which they give the public, deserve to win."

ILLITERACY DECLINES.

Washington, April 9.—Illiteracy in this country is on the decline, according to census bureau returns from the first three states in which 1920 enumeration has been worked.

In Alabama, where the percentage was 22.9 of the population over 10 years of age in 1910, the 1920 percentage was 16.1. In Arkansas the percentage dropped from 12.6 to 9.4, and in Delaware from 8.1 to 5.9.

Illiterate persons under the census bureau tabulation include all those unable to write.

In those states the percentage of illiteracy in the rural districts was greater than in the cities. In Delaware 17.3 per cent of foreign born white persons were found illiterate, and only 2 per cent whites of native parentage.

PASS TENURE BILL.

Sacramento, Cal., April 9.—The state assembly has passed the teachers' tenure bill, which provides that after serving a probationary term of two years school teachers shall be classified as permanent and can be removed only after charges have been preferred against them and are sustained in open court.

In various parts of the state teachers of acknowledged competency have been dropped without opportunity to defend themselves. To remedy this condition organized labor got behind the organized teachers in their demand for protection against the caprice of petty politicians who happen to be members of a school board.

PRICE RISE AT HAND.

Washington, April 9.—Prices have reached their low level and will now begin to rise, is the prediction of D. R. Crissinger, comptroller of the currency, in an interview in the local press.

"I believe we are just at the turning point," he said. "We will soon see goods moving more rapidly, and higher prices prevailing for many of the articles which are now selling so far out of line."

This statement is a contradiction to the claims of those who are urging wage reductions.

RESIST WAGE CUTS.

Los Angeles, Cal., April 9.—The barrage, by propagandists against alleged high wages of building craftsmen did not affect delegates to the annual convention of the California state building trades council. These unionists showed that living costs are much higher, when compared with 1914, than wage increases, which have averaged 80 per cent, while building material prices are still as high as 400 per cent in many cases.

WHAT NON-UNIONISM MEANS.

Belmar, N. J., April 9.—"Free and independent" workers at this place are less inclined to accept the claims of anti-unionists since contracting teamsters reduced wages. The organized teamsters refused to accept the cut, but the unorganized were reduced from $27 for a week of 44 hours to $21 for 54 hours.

STATE UNIONS TO MEET.

Fargo, N. Dak., April 9.—The annual convention of the North Dakota state federation of labor will be held in this city starting May 1.

NEW TAXATION PLAN FAVORED BY BIG BIZ

Washington, April 9.—The demand that "our revenue laws be revised" is the opening propaganda by special interests for legislation that will repeal the excess profits tax and place a direct tax on the consumer.

While the details are not agreed upon, these interests are united in the belief that the $800,000,000 raised through excess profit taxes, should be shifted to the consumer through a turnover tax or a sales tax.

On a turnover tax on leather, for instance, there would be at least eight levies, starting when the farmer sold to the cattle buyer. The hide dealer would pay another tax, followed by the tanner, the leather merchant, the shoe manufacturer, the jobber, the retailer, and the final customer, with prices pyramided by each transaction because of the tax.

A sales tax would mean a direct tax on the ultimate customer, rather than a tax on the various processes of production which would be the rule under a turnover tax.

Opponents of the new taxation system declare that there is not a recognized tax expert that favored the plan before extensive hearings by a congressional committee, and that the only pleaders were special interests who now charge that the industrial depression can be traced to the excess profits tax, which is a drain on business. When prices were high the claim was made that the excess profits tax was responsible.

Special interests are organizing for the purpose of urging the next congress to change the present system so no check will be made on their profits.

REDUCE TEACHERS' PAY.

Wilmette, Ill., April 9.—The wide-spread agitation for a teachers' living wage has subsided and the pendulum is swinging the other way, according to officials of the American Federation of Teachers.

"School boards in South Dakota, Kansas and New Jersey," it is stated, "have already voted substantial cuts in pay, while the subject of salary reduction is under discussion in Ohio, Nebraska, Illinois and Washington. The severest handling yet on record has been given the teachers of the Platte line schools of South Dakota where the organized school boards have slashed pay 25 per cent of the 1920 schedules.

"The inevitable result of such shortsightedness will be that still more teachers will leave the profession of teaching or shift from the grammar schools to the better paid high school positions. Nebraska, where salary reduction is under contemplation, is employing 1,700 teachers on emergency certificates."

AN IMPUDENT CLAIM.

Boston, April 9.—The graduate school of business administration, Harvard university, has issued what it declares to be "probably the first dictionary of labor terms as used by organized labor ever published."

The dictionary gives this definition of the "open shop:"

"A plant in which both union and non-union labor is employed without discrimination."

The dictionary ignores repeated declarations by organized labor that the "open shop" term is a tricky device used by anti-union employers in an attempt to conceal their hostility to collective bargaining and the right of employes to be represented by persons of their own choosing. The claim that organized labor accepts the "open shop" term is impudent.

The authors of the dictionary announce that it is intended for the use of employers "to enable them to secure a better understanding of the point of view of their (?) men."

ANNUL ASSESSMENT.

Chicago, April 9.—The Cigar Makers' International union has ordered a discontinuance of the 50-cent weekly assessment that was collected while the Tampa strike was on.

More than $1,000,000 was expended by this international in Tampa for the defense of trade union principles, and the union's treasury is tronger than ever, despite this drain at a time when other unusual demands were made upon it, because of anti-union drives. The incident proves the stability of bona fide trade unionism and the willingness of real trade unionists to meet financial obligations.

CARTER IS PUBLIC PRINTER.

Washington, April 9.—President Harding has appointed George H. Carter, of Iowa, to the position of public printer, succeeding Cornelius Ford, of New Jersey, who has held that position for eight years. The appointee has been a clerk of a congressional committee for 10 years. He learned to set type when a boy and in 1898 took up newspaper work in the Middle West. He came to Washington in 1907, where he was admitted to the bar. It is stated that he holds an honorary membership in one of the printing trades unions.

MILK CONCERN PROSPERS.

New York, April 9.—The Borden company, milk concern, announces a profit last year of $10.95 a share on the $21,368,100 common stock, after payment of preferred dividends. The company earned $17.80 a share in 1919, but since that time it has purchased real estate in the heart of the city and erected a 23-story office building thereon. This increasd what is called the "property account" and lessened the amount given stockholders.

SIX LIVES COST $25.

New York, April 9.—An owner of a moving picture theater, where six children lost their lives in a fire scare last November, was fined $25 on a charge of permitting minors to enter the theater without parent or guardian. A partner of the owner was sentenced to 60 days in jail on the same charge.

STEREOTYPERS GAIN.

Elmira, N. Y., April 9.—The Stereotypers' union has advanced wages to the following figures: Foremen, morning and Sunday newspapers, $47 a week; foremen, evening newspapers, $44; journeymen, morning papers, $42; journeymen, evening papers, $39. The old scale, with bonus, was: Foremen, $33; journeymen, $30.

WILL HEAR HOWAT CASE.

Topeka, Kan., April 9.—The state supreme court has set May 6 as the date to hear the appeal of Alex Howat and associate officers of the United Mine Workers, district No. 14, who have been sentenced to jail for calling a strike in defiance of an injunction judge.

KILLED AND INJURED IN INDUSTRY UNKNOWN

Washington, April 9.—It is not known how many industrial accidents occur yearly in the United States, says Margaret Gadsby, writing in the Monthly Labor Review, published by the United States bureau of labor statistics, on "Inadequacy of industrial accident statistics published in state reports."

"To what extent have workmen's compensation laws and the safety movement mitigated the accident evil in American industries? We are unable to determine with any degree of certainty. What are the causes of industrial accidents? What is the accident frequency rate in the leading industries; the accident severity rate? We do not know. Where can preventive measures be most effectively applied? It has never been adequately determined; there is no adequate comparable data.

"How many industrially disabled are there in the country who will be affected by the recent legislation extending the rehabilitation to the industrial cripple? No authoritative statistics are available. What is the annual loss in productive efficiency through industrial accidents? What is the annual cost in time and money lost through accidents in industry? We do not know; there are no figures available by which it can be determined.

"Accurate data as to the number of accidents, the causes, nature of injury and degree of disability of accidents occurring in each industry are essential for effective prevention work, as well as for the establishment of adequate and reasonable compensation insurance rates.

"Not only is there no uniform method of tabulating statistics of accidents for the entire country, but also few states can be said to have accurate knowledge of the total number of accidents occurring within their borders."

HALF OF U. S. CAN VOTE.

Washington, April 9.—Approximately one-half of the population of the United States is of voting age, if findings announced by the census bureau for two states in which age statistics on the 1920 census returns have been worked out indicate conditions in all others. In Arkansas individuals over 2 years of age constitute 49.5 pe per cent of the state's total population and in Alabama they amoun to 48.7 per cent.

The bureau is also finding more children in the country than in the cities, as far as the study has been completed. Children under 15 years in urban areas of Alabama constitute 29.6 of the total population there, while in rural territory they comprised 41.7 per cent of the total Arkansas figures bore out the conclusion, giving 40.2 per cent o children in the country, and but 28. per cent in the cities.

More than a third of the country' total population in 1920, and nearl 70 per cent of the urban dwellers—37,770,114 persons to be exact—lived in the 289 cities of 25,000 inhabitants or more.

TAXPAYERS WILL WAKE UP.

Trenton, N. J., April 9.—Taxpayers will wake up when they ar called upon to finance the $300,00 cossack system that has been es tablished by the state legislatur over the veto of Governor Edwards declares Arthur Quinn, president o the state federation of labor.

"The present legislature," th trade unionist said, "is the mos reactionary that New Jersey ha had in many a year. Big interest rule, and the welfare of the peopl is given very little consideration Many of the members are politica accidents who have come here wit all sorts of hobbies and who ar trying to inflict these hobbies o the public. The state police bil means a burden of at least $300,00 on the people of the state, and nobody knows how much greater th burden will be as the years roll o and the usual efforts are made t increase the useless force."

A BRAZEN JUDGE.

New York, April 9.—Justice Va Siclen has declared that the court "must stand at all times as the rep resentatives of capital, of captain of industry, devoted to the principl of individual initiative," and the New York World asks this dispenser o justice what would prevent anothe judge from declaring in favor of organized labor.

Perhaps it did not accur to Justic Van Siclen, says this paper, "tha the courts have no concern with th industrial struggle and should bas their decrees on the merits of eac separate case as it arises."

CHARGE TIMBER MONOPLY.

Trenton, N. J., April 9.—Four fifths of the timber of America i in private hands and a monoply o powerful lumber dealers is slowl but surely destroying the country' forest resources, is the charge mad by Gifford Pinchot, commissioner o forestry of Pennsylvania, in a lette to members of the state legislature The forester said that timber is being devastated at the rate of 3.000,000,000 acres a year and tha there is a concerted plan to giv the Pacific states control of the timber in this section of the country

STRIKERS STICK.

San Francisco, April 9.—Strikin electricians of the Great Wester Power company have rejected a proposal that they return to work wit the understanding that the compan will make a "satisfactory settlement." The strike was caused by wage cut of $1 a day after the company secured permission to rais rates to meet wage increases. Whe the rates were established the company attempted to cut wages whil customers continue paying the hig rates.

PAPER HANGERS GAIN.

St. Louis, Mo., April 9.—After month's strike the Paper Hanger union has raised wages and abo ished piece work. The old rate o $1 an hour is advanced to $1.2 which is the building trades' basi wage. The strikers showed that thi wage is not high for a seasonal occupation. More than 275 worker are benefited.

AIR BRAKE PROSPERS.

New York, April 9.—These a prosperous days for stockholders the Westinghouse Air Brake company, according to the annual report. Net profits last year totale $5,336,403, which is equal to $5.1 a share on the $29,127,350 of capital stock. In 1919 the company earned $10.80 a share.

HAS NO INFORMATION.

Chicago, April 9.—H. E. Loomis president of the Lehigh Valley railroad, has declined to appear before the railway labor board to discuss differences with employes. The railroad executive informed the board that he had no information.